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RENEWING PASTURES.

Some Suggestions as to Methods of Restoring Their Value.

BY THOS. A. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Agronomist, United States Department of Agriculture.

Throughout the prairie regions of the West one frequently sees native pastures nearly devoid of grass and often grown up to weeds of various kinds. Plainly such pastures are of little value to the owner, so far as the forage obtained from them is concerned, and the weeds are a constant eyesore, often rendering the land even worse than worthless.

Such a condition of things is usually due to two causes—drought and overstocking. While the farmer may have no control over the drought itself, he can, by a little care and foresight, put the pasture in condition to withstand it in a great measure, and he certainly can prevent the pasture from being overstocked. Not infrequently the use of the pasture is almost entirely lost for one or two seasons, when a little rest by removing the stock for a time or by feeding green corn, sorghum, or other soiling crops would have kept it in good condition.

The native grasses are hardy, and are adapted to the natural conditions which prevail on the prairies. Some species stand grazing much better than others, and after a pasture has been used for several years it will be found that the weaker grasses are giving way to the stronger ones.

As a rule, the forage obtained from the average prairie pasture is furnished by a comparatively small number of species. In the more thickly-settled portions of the great prairie States big bluestem, bushy blue-stem, western wheat-grass, switch grass, prairie June-grass, wild rye, blue-joint, and the various species of *Stipa* and *Bouteloua* furnish most of native pasturage.

WEEDS OF THE NATIVE PASTURE.

The most troublesome weeds are either annuals or perennials. The former, because of their vigorous and rapid growth, spring up and take possession of a pasture in a very short time. The latter spread more slowly, but are more difficult to eradicate. Left to themselves, the native grasses will hold their own against the weeds; but when they are pastured off and trampled upon by the stock they are less able to cope with the more aggressive species, and soon begin to die out. This is the time when the farmer should give the grasses some extra care. With very little trouble the pasture can be kept in condition for profitable grazing, while neglect or carelessness may result in the practical loss of the use of the pasture for one or more seasons.

Perennial weeds, such as golden-rod, iron-weed, and some of the sunflowers, can usually be kept in check by mowing when in early bloom. The mower should be run high so as to miss as much

while still others respond very quickly, and improve almost at once. This last class includes the most valuable of the native species, such as big bluestem, western wheat-grass, wild-rye, and prairie June grass.

The effect of loosening up the soil is very apparent in a field which has "gone back" and seeded itself to wheat-grass or blue-stem. In many parts of Nebraska and the Dakotas three tons or more of hay is often cut from such fields. The fine growth which most grasses make along the edges of cultivated fields is a sight familiar to all who have traveled over the Western prairies, and ought to be an object lesson to those to whom these same grasses are of so much importance.

The fact that cultivation improves the more desirable native grasses has been demonstrated by nearly every Experiment Station in the West, and by a great many private parties as well.

An experiment made at the Kansas Station in 1892 shows that a thorough stirring up of the soil will do for an upland prairie pasture. The experiment was made on a pasture in which the grasses had been dying out for some time, and the weeds were beginning to appear in abundance. It had been reduced to this condition by drought and overstocking. The surface was thoroughly loosened up by driving a weighted disc harrow over the field in several directions. The pasture was sown to a



FIG. 2.—Slender wheat-grass (*Agropyron tenuis*).

mixture of orchard grass, meadow fescue, blue grass, timothy, red top, clover, and alfalfa, which was harrowed in and a roller was driven over the field to level the surface and firm the ground. The seed germinated quickly and the tame grasses made an excellent start; but by September the wild grasses had crowded them out and held complete possession of the field.

In this case the stirring of the soil and the season's rest not only enabled the prairie grasses to recover and to overcome the weeds, but to crowd out a good stand of tame grasses as well. This has been the experience in Nebraska and South Dakota, where like attempts have been made to renew worn-out pastures. The tame grasses are undoubtedly valuable aids, since the harder they will retain at least partial possession of portions of the pasture and add considerably to the forage obtained. Many of them, though they do not, as a rule, stand drought so well as the native species, start earlier in the Spring or make a better growth in the Fall, and thus lengthen the season during which the pasture may be used.

The continual tramping of the stock cannot help but pack the soil more or less, and consequently prevent its proper aeration. This packed condition also keeps the water from gaining ready entrance, and it runs off and is lost. This, too, when lack of moisture is perhaps the principal reason for the failure of the pasturage. The old grass roots become crowded and die out or are weakened through lack of available food and suitable soil in which to develop.

It is very readily seen then why the treatment which was given to the pasture at the Kansas Station produced such excellent results. The tearing up of the soil gave ready access to air and moisture, putting new life into the roots of the grasses which were cut out and separated by the disc harrow, so that thousands of new shoots sprang up immediately. The rest for one season gave these new plants time to get well established and form a new sod.

If this treatment is given before the pasture is too badly damaged, there is usually no need of sowing so much tame grass seed. There is little doubt that an occasional tearing up of this kind and a little care given to the time and manner of pasturing will get as much pasture from the native grasses as can be obtained from tame varieties under the same conditions.

MANURING NATIVE PASTURES.

There is quite a diversity of opinion among farmers and stockraisers on the question of manuring native pasture lands. Some have obtained excellent results by manuring, while others seem to have had quite the opposite experience.

The soil of the Western prairies is very rich, and under ordinary circumstances will give fair returns without the application of fertilizers of any kind. Nevertheless, it is certain that better returns may be had if more available food is placed within reach of the grasses. Anyone who has observed a piece of grass land so situated as to receive the wash from a barnyard will have found that near the yard where the supply of fertilizer has been great the grasses have become thinned out to a few species, while where the supply has been moderate the grasses are much more evenly developed and the yield decidedly better than upon the unfertilized prairie. The lesson is plain. A too-plentiful application of fertilizer will thin out the grasses and reduce the yield of forage, at least for the first season or two, since many species will not stand such treatment. On the other hand, a proper amount of fertilizer will increase the yield. It is quite possible to use too much fertilizer for any crop, and the native grasses seem to be more sensitive in this respect than the ordinary cultivated species.

Any pasture which has been grazed closely for some time will be benefited by an application of a thin top-dressing of well-rotted stable manure, followed by a thorough harrowing. It is doubtful if much is gained by putting coarse, unrotted manure on the pasture; it can be used to better advantage on cultivated land. Ashes usually have a beneficial effect upon grasses on soils not too plentifully supplied with alkali.

SOWING TAME GRASSES ON NATIVE PASTURE LANDS.

While it is hardly possible, and not always desirable, to make a native pasture over into a tame one, yet, as stated before, the pasture may be materially increased by the addition of some of the cultivated species. A pasture which has had the thin places seeded to hardy tame grasses is certainly more valuable than it would be were these same places grown up to weeds.

In dry upland pastures such grasses as Kentucky blue-grass, sheep's fescue, red fescue, and Canadian blue-grass may be used to advantage. The fescues are especially valuable if the soil is very sandy.

Lowland pastures, particularly those in which the grass has been killed out by overflying, may be seeded with timothy, fowl meadow-grass, red-top, meadow fescue, and alsike. Kentucky blue-grass will do well if the soil is not too wet. It is likely that smooth brome-grass will prove useful on pastures that are to be kept for long periods of time.

The practice of collecting the seeds of such native species as Western wheat-grass, slender wheat-grass, wild rye, prairie June-grass, and the blue-stems, and sowing them on the pasture, is to be recommended. The writer recalls an instance where a farmer in South Dakota obtained an excellent pasture by collecting Western wheat-grass and filling in the bare places with it.

Though timothy as a general thing is a poor pasture grass for upland soils, it may sometimes be profitably employed



FIG. 3.—Big blue-stem (*Andropogon procinctus*).

in old or worn pastures. The farmer very often has a greater or less quantity of seed which has shattered out in the hay mow. It has cost practically nothing to clean it up, and he would hardly pay for the cleaning if he were to sell it. If this is scattered about over the pasture, either in the Fall or Spring, it will pay very well indeed. The timothy may not live in the pasture more than two or three years, but it will yield considerable forage in the meantime and help the native grasses keep down the weeds.

In eastern Nebraska, Kentucky blue-grass is one of the best grasses that can be used for reseeding the native pastures. The seed may be sown just in the last snow in melting in the early Spring. The grass when once started keeps slowly spreading, and after a time



FIG. 4.—Bushy blue-stem (*Andropogon nutans*), forms an excellent sod. It begins its growth early in the Spring, and, though often dry and short during Midsummer, makes good grazing after the Fall rains, and hence gives a longer season during which the stock can be kept on the pasture.

- SUMMARY.
1. Keep from overstocking.
 2. When the soil begins to get baked and packed stir it up with a harrow.
 3. Give occasional light top-dressings of well-rotted stable manure.
 4. Fill in thin spots with hardy tame or wild grasses before the weeds get a start.
 5. Keep the weeds mowed off, so that the grasses may get the benefit of all the plant food there is in the soil.

NEW PROCESS FOR RAMIE.

An Alleged Discovery which Solves the Degumming Problem.

It is only a question of time when the brains of many keenly-intelligent men who are working at it will solve the problem of successfully degumming ramie (rhea, china grass), and revolutionize the whole textile industry, thereby reducing cotton to a very subordinate place. The latest claim is put forth by no less authority than the *London Times*, which says:

"The Goumes' process for treating the rhea fiber is completely successful in rendering that plant a most valuable source of textile material. This process adopts zincate of soda for the elimination of the resins, and effects it without the slightest injury to the fiber. After the 'ribbons' or strips of bark have been freed from dirt they are placed in weak acid baths for a night; next morning they are passed through a mild alkaline bath and then boiled in weak solution of caustic soda to which zinc has been added. When washed and dried by the usual mechanical means the fibers emerge as a long, silky flosse, entirely free from the cuticle and resinous gums in which they were imbedded, being also clean, white, and ready for the comb of the spinner. They likewise take the most attractive dyes and can be worked into every variety of fabric, from the finest quality of velvets to cheap drills and delicate laces. The combined lightness and toughness of the fiber render it peculiarly suitable for tents and ship canvas, and three-fifths more cloth of equal strength can be produced from rhea than from the same weight of linen—that is, 1,000 yards of rhea canvas weighs only as much as 600 yards of linen, its durability and resisting power to strain being also much greater."

We suggest to all our readers that as ramie is certain to come in a few years, they get ready for it by beginning to raise small quantities. It will grow almost anywhere in the United States, is readily cultivated, and is very useful with which to make cord, cloth, ropes, etc. Small quantities can easily be degummed by hand, as the Chinese do. Previous numbers of THE AMERICAN FARMER have contained full particulars in regard to it.

There is danger to seed corn every year when the Winter is severely cold, unless the corn is perfectly dry. The ears selected for seed should be placed where they will dry before Winter sets in. A room containing a stove may be used for drying a large quantity, and also to protect against frost on very cold days. It is a severe loss in Spring should corn be planted and fail to germinate; hence it pays to give the seed some attention now.

THE NATIONAL GRANGE,

Patrons of Husbandry.

The 30th Annual Session Meets in Washington, D. C.

A Very Interesting and Profitable Meeting.

FIRST DAY.

Address of Welcome by Past Master Saunders—Response by National Master Brigham.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 11.
The National Grange, Patrons of Husbandry, was opened in the sixth degree by worthy Master J. H. Brigham, Wednesday morning, Nov. 11, in the west dining-room of the National Hotel at Washington, D. C. The following officers were present: Master, J. H. Brigham; Overseer, Aaron Jones; Secretary, J. T. Cox; Assistant Secretary, J. A. Newcomb; Chaplain, O. H. Hale; Treasurer, Mrs. Eva S. McDowell; Secretary, Dr. John Trimble; Gate-keeper, W. E. Harbaugh; Ceres, Mrs. Lucy G. Smith; Pomona, Mrs. S. G. Baird; Flora, Mrs. E. L. A. Wiggins; Stearless, Mrs. Geo. B. Horton, pro tem. Executive Committee, Leonard Rhone, Chairman; J. J. Woodman, Secretary; N. J. Batchelder, and J. H. Brigham, ex-officio.

The members present were: California, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Greer; Colorado, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Newcomb; Connecticut, Mr. and Mrs. D. B. Bowen; Delaware, Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Messick; Illinois, Mr. and Mrs. O. Wilson; Indiana, Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Jones; Iowa, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Reardon; Maine, Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Wiggins; Maryland, Mr. and Mrs. H. O. Devries; Michigan, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. B. Horton; Minnesota, Geo. W. Baird and Mrs. Sarah G. Baird; Mississippi, S. L. Wilson and Mrs. Wilson; New Hampshire, N. J. Batchelder; New Jersey, Mr. and Mrs. John T. Cox; New York, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Hale; Ohio, Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Smith; Oregon, Mr. and Mrs. Hilary; Pennsylvania, Mr. and Mrs. L. Rhone; Rhode Island, Thos. G. Hazard; South Carolina, Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Thompson; Vermont, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Bell; Virginia, Mr. and Mrs. Alex. J. Wedderburn; Washington, Mr. and Mrs. Aug. Hinch; West Virginia, C. H. Knott; Wisconsin, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Huxley.

Julius Robinson, of Middle Marsh, Ontario, is present as fraternal delegate from Dominion Grange. R. R. Hutcheson, Past Master Virginia State Grange, is also in attendance, as are Dr. G. A. and Mrs. Bowen, of Connecticut.

After the Grange opened a short recess was taken to admit visiting members of the lower degrees, after which the Master introduced Dr. Trimble, Secretary of the National Grange, and one of the founders, who in a brief address reviewed many of the former sessions of the Grange. He was frequently interrupted by applause, especially as he alluded to Washington as the home of the Order. He then introduced Mr. Wm. Saunders, First Master of the National Grange, who spoke in part as follows:

MR. SAUNDERS' ADDRESS.
"The remaining few of us who were associated with the introduction and early history of the Order still cling to the idea, which was always strongly advocated by all of the earlier members of the National Grange, that its permanent habitation should be at the Capital of the Nation. I have been an advocate of this measure for 30 years, and now allude to it because the subject has recently been considered by some members of the Order, and because of my convictions that thereby the prestige of strength and stability would be obtained, and that it would preserve the harmony of the organization of the Order as implied in its divisions of Subordinate, State and National jurisdictions."

"I believe that the welfare of any systematic organization greatly depends upon the thoroughness with which its fundamental designs are adhered to and its proclaimed principles of actions are enforced. Having a suitable structure located in this city, with offices for the transaction of business, halls for the meeting of the Order, where all communications would be disseminated over the entire length and breadth of the organization, it would soon become a factor of great significance and value to the Order."

"This would also provide for the proper preservation and arrangement of the archives of the institution, a matter which has already been too long neglected. Not only could all papers connected with the proceedings of the National Grange be preserved and arranged for ready reference, but the proceedings of all State Granges, as far as practicable, could be filed for the use of members. Indeed, all Grange papers and all Grange literature worthy of recognition should be collected and preserved, all of which will increase in value and interest as the years roll on and the Order has become nationally recognized as an enduring power for good throughout the land."

"While it is essential that Grange meetings should be social and pleasant occasions, yet this is not the sum total of their mission; men and women who are earnest in their undertakings will not long be satisfied by the mere enjoyment of a pleasant hour at these meetings; they crave for more substantial mental food, something that will promote their intelligence and increase their knowledge and information upon subjects of specific value relative to affairs of life, their standing as citizens and their relation to all sorts and conditions of industries. What a wide range of topics for consideration does this subject of practical agriculture embrace. There is no branch of knowledge but will be of benefit to the agriculturist, or may be productive of suggestions applicable to some one or other of his varied pursuits."

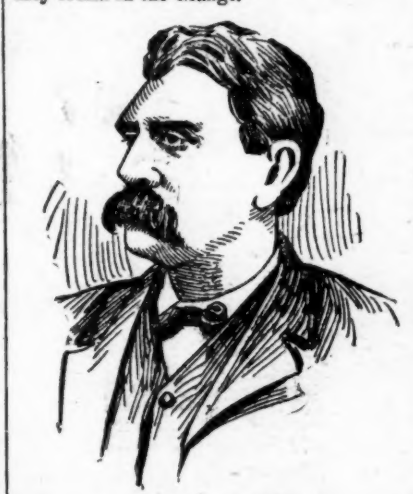
"It is incumbent that Granges should consider matters pertaining to general economies, surely there cannot be any class of questions of more importance to agriculturists than those which result from Governmental action, especially those which refer to the welfare of the industrial classes of society, and which every one who realizes the full importance of the rest of the day. Brother Leonard Rhone offered an amendment to Article 11 of the

bounden duty to deliberately discuss, and to have the courage to enforce his convictions to the best of his abilities and opportunities, even should it lead to the invasion of legislative halls or to changing the complexion of legislative bodies. The Grange is of no political party, but it is within its province to speak out boldly and distinctly on all questions of vital importance to its members, whenever it seems necessary to do so. But before safe conclusions can be reached, it must be kept in mind that instruction in human duties, and a knowledge of human requirements, must precede intelligent action in the government of human affairs."

Mr. Saunders was followed by National Master J. H. Brigham.

THE NATIONAL MASTER'S ADDRESS.

Col. Brigham in a short address responded to Mr. Saunders, and feelingly alluded to the two founders present, Messrs. Saunders and Trimble, who, he said, had laid the foundation of this grand Order. Briefly reviewing the trouble the founders had in enlisting the farmers in their work, he said, "Finally conditions forced the farmers to look about them for some means to aid their calling and save them from destruction. This they found in the Grange."



J. H. BRIGHAM.

He then outlined what the Order's objects were, and said: "Our organization is trying to do a grand and glorious work for the cause of the farmers and their great industry. It encourages the farmers to improve not only the methods on the farms, but to elevate and educate themselves."

In speaking of the country, he said: "The people are not only citizens, but sovereigns. When it comes to the ballot the President has no more power than the humblest, and the Grange encourages its membership to use this power wisely and well, so as to promote the welfare of every industry, especially that of agriculture, and to demand that State and National legislatures shall not discriminate against the foundation industry and that it shall receive equal recognition with other industries of the State."

He then alluded to the fraternity that existed in the Order that brought all sections together to confer for patriotic and wise purposes as to the upbuilding of agriculture. He alluded to the unity and fraternity between the sections brought about through the instrumentality of the Order.

"If this Order had existed from the foundation of our Government," he said, "we would not see the grassy mounds scattered over the land that mark the resting place of patriotic and liberty-loving citizens, and we would have escaped the trials and expense of the war."

"Let every Patron use his or her fraternal power to unite all our people and thus build a monument to the founders of the Grange equalled by no other in the country."

At the close of the worthy Master's remarks he announced a Committee on Credentials, as follows: T. J. Hazard, Chairman; W. W. Greer, S. H. Messick, Mrs. R. E. Cox and Mrs. Maggie Hale.

REPORTS OF THE OFFICERS.

Worthy Overseer Aaron Jones, of Indiana, reported that in July he received directions to fill a series of appointments in Kansas, which he did, conducting 30 successful meetings in different parts of the State.

Worthy Steward John T. Cox, of New Jersey, in his report, said that all the property of the National Grange was in good condition, and that his associations with his assistants had been pleasant. In conclusion he said: "Inactivity is the danger that threatens the life of many subordinate Granges," and he asked for earnest work by all.

Sister Eva McDonald, of New York, Treasurer, reported that the receipts for the year had been \$15,565.71; expenditures, \$17,834.72, but of the expenditures \$2,640 had been invested in a mortgage.

General Secretary Dr. John Trimble, of this city, reported that the number of dispensations for new Granges had been 169; Granges reorganized, 48; seventh degree certificate conferred on 1,318; sixth degree certificate (National Grange) conferred on 503; sixth degree certificate (State Grange) conferred on 1,311; receipts by him, \$6,387.91; balance on hand, \$191.81.

The Committee on Credentials reported that the States were properly represented, and recommended that Brother J. Robinson, of Dominion Grange, Canada, be extended the usual courtesies. The report was adopted and the meeting adjourned until 9 o'clock Thursday morning.

SECOND DAY.

Report of the National Lecturer. Women as Honorary Members—The Committee.

THURSDAY, NOV. 12.
The labors began at 9:30 o'clock in the morning, and, with intermissions only for lunch and dinner, lasted until late in the evening. The work, however, was apparently enjoyed by the members, and was of a character that created pleasure for those who are earnestly interested in the present and future condition of agriculture.

The proceedings for the day opened in the fourth degree, with Worthy Overseer Aaron Jones, of Indiana, presiding, after a brief title worthy Master J. H. Brigham entered the room and presided over the deliberations of the day. Brother Leonard Rhone offered an amendment to Article 11 of the

Constitution, relative to officers, which was referred for future consideration, and so were "some suggestions, the fifth degree." The annual report of Brother Alpha Messer, Lecturer, of Vermont, was read, in which he said:

"The genuine fraternity of Grange membership has been so little affected in a general way by the great political strife, just closed that its work for the uplifting of our rural population to a higher plane of thought and intelligent action has gone steadily forward, and to-day the Order is stronger in members, stronger in influence, and stronger in the hearts of the people than it was one year ago."

This the Lecturer ascribed to organized efforts by farmers and others in nearly every department of life. Continuing, he added:

LECTURING LEFT TO FARMERS.

"During the past year I have done more office work and less field work than in former years. In view of the stringency of the times, and the scarcity of money among farmers, the leaders of the Grange every State have practiced the economy they have preached, and have mainly used home talent for their field work, which is less expensive than outside speakers from a distance. By this means a twofold object has been gained, the saving of money and utilizing and developing the latent powers of thought and speech in hundreds of intelligent farmers who have been brought to the front through the instrumentality of the Grange, and have shown themselves to be the peers of any other class of general public speakers on the platform at the first time. The wonderful development of such large numbers of the farming population along the lines of self-confidence, concentrated thought, and easy public utterance, with its practical features in other directions, makes the Grange order a most valuable factor in the great problem of useful education for the rural population of this Nation."

Referring to literature that farmers should read, Brother Messer said: "While the number of strictly Grange papers has decreased during the last few years, the number of farm papers with Grange departments has largely increased, so that the press now carries the Grange gospel, fraternity and good will, to thousands of farm homes that were not reached by the former local Grange newspaper. Newspapers in all parts of the country, with and without Grange departments, are ready and anxious to publish all of the well written news of Grange matter that they can get, and the amount of such matter that is thus printed depends almost wholly upon the willingness of the members to furnish the copy."

MEMBERS PARTLY AT FAULT.

"In this connection I am sorry to say that my experience has been such that I am forced to believe the membership at large is greatly at fault in this direction, and that not one-fourth as much Grange matter is sent to the newspapers for publication as might be with interest and profit to the Order."

"The general topic selected for discussion in the Quarterly Bulletin during the last year have been in accordance with Grange principles, non-partisan and non-sectarian, and the suggestions presented have been in the same spirit. The main object in view in the selection of these topics has been to enable the farmers of this country, by carefully considering these questions, to obtain a better knowledge of the underlying principles of the economic and governmental questions which are before the people at the present time."

Sister Amanda M. Horton, of Michigan, offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Whereas the National Grange at a former session enrolled as life members of this body the honored founders of this Order; and, Whereas we have always recognized the equality of women; Therefore, be it

Resolved, that the closeness of our founders as members of this body, and that they be invited to its business and social sessions on the same terms as their husbands.

A committee was appointed to ascertain when it would be convenient for President Cleveland to receive the members of the National Grange at the White House, and later in the day the committee reported that the President would be pleased to receive them Saturday, at 3 o'clock, at the Grange, in body, will wait on him.

WOMEN AS HONORARY MEMBERS.

Sisters Frankie M. Grace, of Louise Bell, and S. L. Hilkey were appointed a committee to provide music for the Grange during its session, after which a resolution was adopted expressing regret at the illness of Hon. William H. Hatch, of Missouri, and sympathy for him. The resolution of Brother A. B. Jackson, of Iowa, to request a member of the Interstate Commerce Commission to address the Grange during the session was adopted. It was then announced that Prof. C. W. Dabney, Jr., Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, had accepted an invitation to be present at a convention of the Grange of Brothers John Trimble, Leonard Rhone, and S. L. Wilson, was appointed by Master Brigham to escort him to the meeting room. Half an hour later a delegation of the Presidents of the Agricultural and Mechanical Colleges and the directors and officers of the Agricultural Experiment Stations visited the Grange, under the escort of the Executive Committee.

Worthy Master Brigham introduced the President, Dr. S. W. Johnson, of Connecticut, who, in a brief and well-delivered address, expressed the thanks of his society for the invitation, and the desire, as indicated by the National Grange, to work in harmony with his society for the benefit of agriculture. Other remarks were made by G. W. Atherton, of Pennsylvania, and C. H. Harris, United States Commissioner of Education.

After the Grange got down to business again, Master Brigham announced the standing committee.

THE STANDING COMMITTEES.

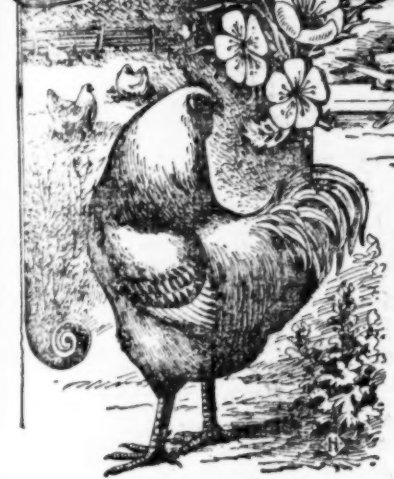
Credentials—Thomas G. Hazard, Rhode Island; W. W. Greer, California; S. H. Messick, Delaware; Mrs. Rachel E. Cox, New Jersey; Mrs. Maggie Hale, New York.

Division of Labor—S. L. Wilson, Mississippi; W. M. Hilkey, Oregon; Mrs. Emma J. Newcomb, California.

Publication—C. J. Bell, Vermont; N. J. Batchelder, New Hampshire; A. J. Wedderburn, Virginia; Mrs. L. M. Howe, Massachusetts; Mrs. Ida Jackson, Iowa.

(Continued on 25th page.)

POULTRY, PIGEONS & PET-STOCK



A POULTRY FARM.

Can Large Flocks be Kept—The Breeds.

What Has Been Done by Some.

I have been asked a good many times whether a good living can be made from poultry, says a correspondent of the *Ohio Farmer*. I have generally replied it depends, like other industrial pursuits, more upon the man than upon the business. A few have made a good living for a small family from poultry, while probably more have made a failure. Some, from a small flock of 25 to 30 hens, keeping account of all outlay for feed, etc., and income from eggs and chickens, have figured a net profit of \$1 or perhaps \$1.50 per head, and from that experience have concluded that if they should increase their flock to 1,000 fowls they might reasonably expect a net profit of \$1,000 to \$1,500 a year, a comfortable living income. But if they tried the experiment of keeping 1,000 fowls, or anything near that number, in one flock, they made a disastrous failure.

Perhaps the main cause of failure of large flocks is the fact that so many fowls cannot be kept in a single flock without incurring various fatal diseases, which will cause them to rapidly disappear. Fifty or 60 fowls are about as many as can be safely kept together in one flock. Shall we conclude, then, that 50 or 60 fowls are all a man can keep with profit? Not by any means. If he have room enough he can keep as many flocks as he can watch over, take good care of, protect against vermin and disease, supply with suitable food and afford sufficient space for good air and healthful exercise, and especially for roosting without crowding.

Learning that a man who supplies my family twice a week with good, fresh eggs had started a large poultry yard a little east of the city, I went out there on a pleasant morning in the latter part of May. As you approach the place you perceive two long sheds uniting at right-angles, with numerous windows and sliding doors on the south side of the longer and the east side of the shorter shed. You count 10 doors in the latter and 20 in the former. At the angle of the sheds there is a small barn. These sheds were built by a farmer to breed lambs in early Winter and fatten them for the early Spring markets, and those 30 pens enabled him to divide up his large flock of ewes and lambs into small flocks which could be kept from crowding one another, and all fed from a narrow alley in the rear, through which a car laden with feed could be run on a wooden track past the back door of every pen. These sheds and pens make a very convenient henry. In front of the pens are open yards or runs, for the fowls in fair weather to run in and scratch and nibble grass.

Mr. H. D. Mack, the proprietor of this poultry farm, an old army veteran, commenced here last Fall, with a small flock for the Winter, which he increased before Spring to 600. The Spring pullets which he put in last Fall, laid handsomely through the Winter in their warm, pleasant quarters. They were mainly White and Brown Leghorns. These breeds lead in numbers now, and in addition he has Plymouth Rocks, White Brahmas, Golden Wyandottes and Indian Games. The Leghorns are perhaps the most prolific layers, but Mr. M. is highly pleased with the Golden Wyandottes. They were produced, like the Plymouth Rocks, by crossing the small Europeans upon the large Asiatics; the Hamburgs, I believe upon the Buff Cochins and Dark Brahmas. They are short-legged, with plump, heavy bodies, short necks, small heads, dark-brown feathers dotted with golden spots, are good layers and good for the table. The Games are not attractive looking, their small heads, long necks, small, slender bodies and long legs being better adapted to a free, wandering life than to confinement, yet they are good layers of large eggs and are good for the table. I picked up a small, blue-black pullet and was astonished at its heavy weight.

As at present arranged, every flock of 60 fowls has a double pen, about 25 by 40 feet, or 800 square feet of shed room, besides a good run outside. There is a cock to every 12 or 15 hens and they are all purebred, although some of the hens are crosses and grades. The pens have earthen floors, are kept clean, and the woodwork, roosts, nests, feeding troughs, and watering troughs are frequently washed with kerosene. Insect powder (pyrethrum) is freely scattered about the nests, upon the sitting hens, also upon the laying hens. The nests are movable boxes which can be readily taken out and cleansed. He feeds wheat and oats at night and a mash of ground oats, bran and middlings in the morning. In cold weather he feeds some corn. He obtains meat scraps from the city two or three times a week,

and proposes to purchase a bone-cutter and cut green bone for them. Pure water runs in pipe through the long sheds, and a bountiful supply is kept constantly before them. Shallow boxes filled with road dust are kept for them to wallow in. There are roosts of stair form and also horizontal perches about four feet from the floor, with inclined plane leading to them. He prefers the latter. He says that in the former style all fowls that possibly can will crowd upon the upper perch, filling it too full for health and comfort, and their voidings often drop on those below. The fowls all appear content and healthy. Not a drooping or crippled fowl did I see in the whole lot. He gathers all the eggs daily, about 30 dozen at the present time, and sells to private families

market are largely sold on "confidence" in their quality, and no mistakes can be allowed, as customers will always be suspicious of the merchant or farmer who allows a bad egg to be sold by him.

Colored Dorking.

Of the several varieties of Dorkings, the modern colored are by far the most popular and appear the most likely to attract the American fancy. They seem at once the heaviest and hardiest of them, two points which our breeders have always looked for in the breed. This was the popular color not many years ago. It was in the main, color of the wings and back, not far from the pepper-and-salt marking of the Silver Gray, with a more brownish tint and a heavy lacing bordering the feather. There was very little gloss in the lacing, the quality of the lacing being of a dull or brownish black.

Pampering the Fowls.

Overfeeding and underfeeding are the bane of the poultry business. What is meant by underfeeding is not an insufficiency of food, but too much of one kind, such as grain, the fowls receiving an abundance of food that is practically useless to them. Overfeeding is the giving of the fowls an excess of any kind; that is, the keeping of feed before them at all times, or the constant feeding of them under the mistaken supposition that "the more food the more eggs."

When fowls are pampered by poultrymen it is not always intentional, for the breeder or poultryman who takes an interest in his flock finds a certain pleasure in supplying all their wants, and in treating them kindly; but he gets them out of condition by pampering, and does not find out until too late that one of the best methods of keeping a flock is to compel the hens to make an effort to help themselves. The best egg-producing material will be a huge pile of leaves or litter on the poultry-house floor, in which the hens can scratch.

What a Woman is Doing.

A Miss Asbeck resides near the La Mesa boulevard, about five miles from San Diego. Three years ago she and her father went on this place, and the lady informs us that after buying 11 hens and a cock, she had 15 cents left with which to carry on the business. Not long since she requested us to visit her poultry farm and advise her as to some matings she desired to make. In the spacious and well appointed yards we found Black Minorcas, Buff and Brown Leghorns, Barred Rocks, Black Langshans, Bearded Golden Polish, Cornish Indian Games, and a pair of Pearl Guineas. In the improvised ponds east of the chicken department and on the low grounds, was a large flock of monstrous Pekin ducks in one, and a few Muscovites in another, direct from Hawaii. This lady has now 400 and upwards of fowls, and over 1,000 chicks. When she first began, there was no horse and buggy to convey her and the eggs to market, and for two years she walked, carrying the basket of eggs on her arm, to the end of the electric road, where she took passage the remaining two miles to the city. This Spring she bought a horse and buggy—the egg produce became too large for her to handle the old way. On the premises she has erected eight or nine commodious hen-houses, fenced with netting a very large yard for each house, and made the duck ponds, doing most of the work herself, (her father being rather elderly and not very strong), and the expense all being met from the poultry products. Miss Asbeck says the chickens pay their own way, furnish the living for the house, and clothing for herself and father, besides giving a good margin for incidentals and improvements. Last December she was the largest exhibitor at the poultry show, winning her share of premiums. She sends for the best when she imports stock, last year spending over \$100 for eggs and \$90 for fowls—out of the chicken business, remember. Also bear in mind the humble beginning. How many of our business men, farmers and horticulturists, have done as well in three years with dollar for dollar on their investments? It is needless to say, of course, that Miss Asbeck attends carefully and methodically to all the little details.—*Cal. Poultry Tribune*.

Mistakes With Eggs.

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[We doubt the statements about this corn being so valuable for laying hens. It is a starchy food and will make too much fat for layers, we think. If fed to laying hens, it ought to be used liberally with bran, oats, rye, and especially with chipped bone or bone meal. Then it may do.]

Some of the most careful poultrymen are the ones who send stale eggs to market. During some seasons a visit to any store or market where eggs are sold will convince the skeptical that the merchants have great difficulty in securing strictly fresh eggs. Purchase a few dozen and take them home for examination, and the result will probably be that some of them are unsuitable for use. Now, this condition of the egg market in Summer is one that has always existed, and is due to a lack of system in managing. If the hens are compelled to lay in the poultry house, and the eggs collected daily, there would be less liability of stale eggs finding their way into the basket of fresh eggs; but when eggs are picked up in the fence corners, in the horse-troughs, under the barn, or from other places than the poultry house, the chances are always favorable to mistakes. And if one bad egg is found in a hundred, the whole lot is then injured in reputation to a certain extent, and cannot be graded as "strictly" fresh eggs. The eggs in

the city for about the retail price of groceries. The former are sure to be fresh, the latter—were fresh when laid. In separating the pens under the shed, and in the fences around the outside runs, much use is made of woven wire. By connecting the small-fruit business with poultry, the right kind of a man could derive a handsome income from 8 to 10 acres of good land.—*Poultry Keeper*.

Kafr Corn for Poultry.

It is good for little chicks or for old fowls. The grain is smaller than wheat, and little chicks will begin to eat it by the time they are a week old, and will grow like magic. They are very fond of it, and the music they make while devouring it is enough to gladden the heart of any chicken crank. Their little crops will stick out until you will almost think there are two chicks instead of one—a sort of Siamese twins, as it were. But don't worry about them; they will not be crop bound, for the Kafr corn does not swell in their crops. It has this rare quality to such a degree that, even though it be soaked in water over night, it does not swell.

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THE NATIONAL GRANGE.

(Continued from first page.)

Claims and Grievances—Augustus High, Washington State; Aaron Jones, Indiana; S. H. Messick, Delaware; Mrs. Martha Wilson, Illinois; Mrs. E. L. A. Wiggins, Maine; Dormant Grange—Oliver Wilson, Illinois; George W. Baird, Minnesota; W. K. Thompson, South Carolina; Mrs. Frank M. Greer, California; Mrs. Mary M. Reardon, Kansas. Accounts—A. B. Hudson, Iowa; C. H. Knott, West Virginia; H. E. Huxley, Wisconsin; Mrs. M. Louise Bell, Vermont. Mileage and Per Diem—W. W. Greer, California; Edward Wiggins, Maine; W. K. Thompson, South Carolina; Mrs. A. L. Jones, Connecticut; Mrs. Maggie Jones, Indiana. Finance—A. H. Hale, New York; J. A. Newcomb, Colorado; S. O. Bowen, Connecticut; Mrs. Sarah G. Baird, Minnesota; Mrs. E. P. Wilson, Mississippi. Digest—S. L. Wilson, Mississippi; H. E. Huxley, Wisconsin; T. H. Smith, Ohio; Mrs. Mary A. Bachelder, New Hampshire; Mrs. Mary S. Huxley, Wisconsin. Ritual—E. D. Howe, Massachusetts; W. W. Greer, California; S. H. Messick, Delaware; Mrs. J. Sarah Wedderburn, Virginia; Mrs. E. P. Wilson, Mississippi. Order of Business—C. H. Knott, West Virginia; J. A. Newcomb, Colorado; John T. Cox, New Jersey; Mrs. Ann E. Devries, Maryland; Mrs. Ida V. High, Washington State.

Constitution and By-Laws—A. P. Reardon, Kansas; Thomas G. Hazard, Rhode Island; John T. Cox, New Jersey; Mrs. Ida V. High, Washington State; Mrs. M. S. Rhone, Pennsylvania. Cooperation—H. O. Devries, Maryland; E. D. Howe, Massachusetts; T. H. Smith, Ohio; Mrs. M. S. Rhone, Pennsylvania; Mrs. Frank M. Greer, California.

WILL OUTLINE GRANGE'S POLICY. Resolutions—Edward Wiggins, Maine; A. B. Hudson, Iowa; George B. Horton, Michigan; Mrs. S. L. Bowen, Connecticut; Mrs. Lucy G. Smith, Ohio. Good of the Order—George B. Horton, Michigan; S. V. Bowen, Connecticut; O. H. Hale, New York; Mrs. S. L. Hillery, Oregon; Mrs. M. S. Rhone, Pennsylvania. Foreign Relations—G. W. Baird, Minnesota; W. M. Hillery, Oregon; Leonard Rhone, Pennsylvania; Mrs. Rachel E. Cox, New Jersey; Mrs. Lena M. Messick, Delaware. Education—Mrs. Sarah G. Baird, Minnesota; Mrs. Lucy G. Smith, Ohio; Mrs. S. L. Hillery, Oregon; H. O. Devries, Maryland; S. W. Thompson, South Carolina. Transportation—S. H. Messick, Delaware; Aaron Jones, Indiana; A. B. Reardon, Kansas; Mrs. Ann E. Devries, Maryland; Mrs. J. Sarah Wedderburn, Virginia. Agriculture—T. H. Smith, Ohio; Augustus High, Washington State; Oliver Wilson, Illinois; C. J. Bell, Vermont; Mrs. A. M. Horton, Michigan; Mrs. Maggie Hale, New York; Mrs. Mary M. Reardon, Kansas; Mrs. Mary A. Bachelder, New Hampshire.

Immediately after the announcement of the standing committees a recess was taken until 2:30 o'clock. When the meeting resumed, reports and papers were read, which described the progress of the work of the Grange in the different sections of the country. All of the reports were hopeful in tone, and indicated that the work of the Grange is being felt generally.

THIRD DAY. Reports from the Various States—The Grange Generally in a Thriving Condition. FRIDAY, NOV. 13. It was precisely 9:30 o'clock when worthy Master Brigham's gavel announced that the meeting was called to order, which announcement he supplemented by saying the meeting would open in the fourth degree. Resolutions relating to pure food and dairy products were read by the Committee on Resolutions, and the Grange took up the reports from States. These reports proved to be of considerable interest to the members, for they presented knowledge of the actual condition of the Order in the different sections of the country. From the reports read it was apparent that the Order is stronger in the East and West than in the South. Brother O. H. Hale said of New York:

"The Order of Patrons of Husbandry in the State of New York still lives and is in a strong, healthy condition; is growing in power and usefulness, not alone to the members of the Order, but every farmer in the State is being benefited. As the noble principles of the Order are better understood, opposition ceases, and the benefits of fraternal love and encouragement are extended to our Order. Since the last session of the National Grange 27 new Granges have been organized. Most of these Granges are in Counties where Granges have not heretofore been formed, and their members are among the most substantial and intelligent farmers in these localities."

"We have 19 Grange insurance companies, carrying 18,487 policies, amounting to \$37,618,242. We have paid for losses in three years \$287,385, costing \$6.04 per thousand dollars for three years, and saving to our members of \$149,057 over stock companies at their old rate."

W. M. Hillery, of Oregon, informed the members of the Grange that Oregon State Grange was organized in September, 1873, and its jurisdiction at that time extended from the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific, and from the British line to the Golden State.

"Eight years ago," said Brother Hillery, "Washington State Grange was carved out of this great territory and set up housekeeping on her own account. During the year 1885 the last Grange in Idaho became dormant, and its charter has been revoked. The Grange in Oregon is prosperous. Nine new Granges have been organized within the year just past, and six of these during the quarter ending Sept. 30. We expend all our surplus revenue in lecture work. Our mutual fire insurance is a growing success, and all Oregon Patrons are proud of the association, which saves money to its members and gives them good protection against loss by fire. The Grange is very lively interest in the State Agricultural College."

Much interest was manifested in the report of Brother Leonard Rhone, of Pennsylvania, who said that there were organized during the year 18 Granges, with 346 charter members, and there were 1,358 initiated to membership. The total increase of membership during the year was 1,704. The total amount paid the National Grange during the year was \$1,540.81.

"A year's experience," he said, "has demonstrated the wisdom of our Grange legislation in securing the creation of a State Department of Agriculture, with a Secretary in the Governor's Cabinet and special heads of scientific departments. The Secretary has been enabled by this organization to bring to a general control of the entire department in the interest of the agricultural class. The Dairy and Food Commissioner has nearly crushed out the oleomargarine business, and has entered into a thorough investigation of food adulterations, condemning many of the so-called articles of food, prosecuting fraudulent vendors, and turning over to the State and County treasuries over \$12,000 in the way of fines."

"The Grange in Pennsylvania has done much towards building up a co-operative system of trade for the purchase of supplies and sale of farm products. It has organized a system of trade established by our State organization, the humblest member may buy his farm implements and supplies in single implement or broken packages, to suit purchaser, at

wholesale prices, without the intervention of agents, thus saving from 20 to 25 per cent. upon his purchases. Commission houses have also been established for the sale of grain and produce, whereby the products of the farm are handled upon the same terms as that of the general dealer."

"The South Carolina, W. K. Thompson said: 'The Grange is again on rising ground, and he predicted that it would increase daily in numbers and prosperity.' On behalf of Vermont, C. J. Bell reported that while the State was not as progressive in Grange matters as some States, yet four Granges were organized during the year, and the total membership had been increased 10 per cent."

Brother A. J. Wedderburn spoke of Virginia: "We have recently revived an old Grange with 44 members. Many of our Granges are weak, but the farmers of the Old Dominion will abide by me to do their full share in the work of upbuilding agriculture and all other pursuits. The worthy Master kindly agreed to assist us financially in the State, but I felt that the time had not come when money and work would be judiciously expended. I now believe that a judicious expenditure of work will result in an increase of membership and the organization and reorganization of Granges. I am assured of revived interest in many sections of our grand old State. I am pleased to report that for the first time in years our treasury actually has a surplus, though small."

H. E. Huxley reported that Wisconsin Grange work had been interrupted by the recent political campaign, but predicted a great interest in it, now that the normal condition of the State had been reached. S. H. Merrick, of Delaware, reported that the interest being manifested in Grange work in that State was encouraging, and a similar report concerning Michigan was read by George B. Horton.

The condition of the Order in Mississippi was depicted by S. L. Wilson, but he said he looked forward to a more hopeful condition in the near future. Of the Mississippi Agricultural and Mechanical College he said: "The wisdom of the past liberal policy of the General and State Governments was apparent in fostering the cause of industrial education, by the new lines of enterprise and industrial developments, which are being successfully inaugurated and carried out at the college. With the various departments of instruction, the field and dairy, garden and orchards, shops and laboratories, the college is giving to the young men of the State a taste and fondness for industrial pursuits, and the system of education thoroughly equips them with that knowledge and special training so necessary to success in life."

At the close of the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 1895, the balances of the accounts stood as follows: Loaned on real estate securities..... \$43,500 00 Deposited with the Fiscal Agency..... 7,588 00 Total..... \$51,088 00 Showing an increase of funds during the fiscal year of..... \$ 361 99 No payment, nine 220 active Granges in a State of mortgages during the year, and there was loaned..... 2,847 00 There has been paid on interest..... 9,627 15 Amount of interest due and unpaid Nov. 11, 1896..... 1,505 85

"The annual settlements with the Secretary, Treasurer, and Lecturer have been made, and the books and vouchers of these officers have, as usual, been found correct and in proper order. There was appropriated for lecture and editorial work \$2,000, of which \$1,918.54 has been expended."

As instructed at the last annual session, your committee has endeavored to make available means at its command, to disseminate information among farmers as to the purposes of the Grange and the advantages it offers the farmers of our country. To this end your committee has inaugurated the publication of a quarterly Grange Quarterly Bulletin, for the purpose of transmitting information from the National Grange to the subordinate organizations, with a view of bringing about a uniformity of work and a concentrated effort of the entire Order, not only for the dissemination of practical agricultural information, but also to secure legislation for the promotion of the general prosperity of the agricultural class. But, with the pending Presidential political contest, progress was necessarily slow; still, some practical results have been achieved, especially in the legislation securing the pure food laws and the passage of the act known as the filled cheese law."

INTERESTED IN ECONOMIC QUESTIONS. "At no time in the history of our country have the people taken such an intense interest in economic questions as in the late political contest, which we trust will secure the inauguration of a policy of wise reform to the farmers an era of higher prices for their products and relieve the present greatly depressed condition of agriculture."

"In setting the monetary and tariff policy of this country the rights of the agricultural class must be protected, as well as the rights of moneyed institutions, as the prosperity of the country depends upon the general profitability of all our industries. The farmers, comprising nearly 50 per cent. of the population of our country, become the principal customers of our manufacturing institutions, as millions upon millions of dollars worth of machinery and agricultural supplies are used by the farming class; therefore the manufacturers and moneyed institutions cannot afford to cripple the farmer, who is their customer."

Brother H. O. Devries, of Maryland, introduced a resolution asking that some action be taken to secure farmers a fair chance to dispose of their goods at the markets in this city. He claimed that the sands are now controlled by monopolies to the exclusion of farmers. The resolution was referred to the committee on co-operation.

RESOLUTIONS SENT TO COMMITTEES. A resolution introduced by Brother E. D. Howe, of Massachusetts, to amend the ritual was referred to the Committee on Ritual. Brother Leonard Rhone, of Pennsylvania, offered a resolution to the effect that measures be taken to have the civil service law amended, so that all persons appointed to agricultural positions shall pass an examination in practical agriculture. The resolution was referred to the proper committee. So, too, was a resolution relating to the free delivery of mails in rural districts, offered by Brother A. P. Reardon.

Under the order for reports, Brother Oliver Wilson, of Illinois, said that during the year five new Granges had been established in his State, and many had been reorganized. "Our people," he said, "are learning the advantages of co-operation. We have made satisfactory arrangements with business firms

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Brother A. B. Hudson, of Iowa, reported that the Order was slowly but surely growing, and Brother John T. Cox made a similar report for New Jersey. Brother Thomas R. Smith, of Ohio, said that 26 Granges had been organized and 24 dormant ones had been reorganized during the year. He said the Grange Legislative Committee watched Ohio legislation with beneficial results.

Brother Augustus High, of Washington State, reported that the prospects for the Grange were good in his State, but that organization had been retarded by low prices received for farm products. He added: "The present rise in wheat was of but little benefit to Washington State, because the farmers had practically disposed of the crops before the rise in prices."

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S REPORT. The Executive Committee, in its report to the Grange, said: "Previous to the 19th annual session, in 1885, the funds were invested in Government bonds, and required but little or no responsibility on the part of the committee. At that session the bonds were ordered to be sold, and the money was placed under the control of the Executive Committee, to invest in real estate securities. The same was loaned to farmers, in sums of not less than \$1,000, on five years' time, at 6 per cent. interest, and notes taken, secured by first mortgages on good farms. Since that time not less than double the amount of the investment. The interest was promptly paid during the five years, but as the date of maturity of the notes approached, in a large majority of cases an extension of time of payment of the principal was asked. Upon a careful inspection of the farms, the securities seemed to be ample, notwithstanding the depreciation in the cash value of real estate which had then taken place, and the time of payment was extended by consent only, and without the specification of time. The further depreciation in farm values, which has taken place in the last few years, has given the committee some apprehension that ultimately it may become necessary to institute foreclosure proceedings in a few cases where the security may become insufficient on account of non-payment of interest, but are hopeful that the interest will be paid and the committee relieved of such an unpleasant duty."

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tain a proper relation of prosperity among the industries of a nation.

"In order to maintain the general prosperity of a country with such extensive and diversified agricultural interests as those of the United States, it becomes necessary to faithfully consider every plausible means at our command."

"If the claims of the advocates of an export bounty upon agricultural products to be paid by the Government are well founded, the money judiciously paid in bounties is not to be compared with the benefits to be derived in this giving profitable encouragement to American agriculture and profitable employment to American labor, and thus promote the welfare of all by starting the humming wheels of industry to the music of a happy people."

A VISIT TO THE WHITE HOUSE.

After receiving the report the meeting adjourned. The members had lunch and then proceeded to the Executive Mansion, where they were received by President Cleveland. Worthy Master J. H. Brigham, assisted by General Secretary Dr. John Trimble, introduced the 319 members of the Grange to the President as they filed past him, and to each he had a pleasant word to say. There were no speeches made, but after all had paid their respects, Mr. Cleveland told Worthy Master Brigham and Secretary Trimble that he was much pleased by the visit.

FIFTH DAY.

Resolutions Considered—Market at Washington—The Transportation Problem. MONDAY, NOV. 16. The National Grange was opened by Worthy Overseer A. Jones, of Indiana, with Augustus High, of Washington, as Overseer, pro tem.

Under call of the States for new business, a number of resolutions were introduced and referred, among them resolutions by Mr. Hillery in regard to the appointment of a Secretary of Agriculture and one in regard to the Nicaragua canal. Mr. Wedderburn introduced a resolution demanding equal protection for agriculture. The Chaplain, O. H. Hale, submitted an interesting report. Mr. Robinson, of the Dominion Grange, was invited to address the Grange, and made a short historical address on the growth and progress of the Grange in Canada.

The Grange spent some time in discussing the regulation of farmers' markets at Washington, D. C.

THE TRANSPORTATION QUESTION.

The hour for the special order having arrived, Mr. Devries, of Maryland, from the special committee, introduced Commissioner Knapp and Secretary Moseley, of the Interstate Commerce Commission. The Worthy Master introduced Commissioner Knapp, who spoke briefly. He recognized the Grange as the original promoters of the Interstate Commerce Commission, and appreciated their sympathy, support, and co-operation, which have been so successfully accorded by the Order. The public had worked upon the railroad corporations from a purely commercial standpoint, and they were regarded as purely private enterprises. He then alluded to highways generally, and stated the rights of the people had thereon. He believed in Government supervision, but must not be construed as advocating ownership. Few people were ready for any such thing. He believed that the public have the right to demand equal and exact justice for each class and each individual. The Government never surrendered the right over the roads when it delegated them certain privileges. The public highway was a means of communication and belonged alike to each citizen, and it was the legitimate province of Government to control the roads in the interest of the people, whether they were dirt or steel.

It was the duty of the Government to compel the impartiality of rates for all classes and individuals. There should be just, even and equitable charges for all. There should be absolute equality, and all favoritism should be abolished, all rates made safe and good. We are out of debt, and have a fund on hand sufficient for all reasonable demands."

LECTURER'S HOUR. Saturday evening a new and interesting feature was inaugurated in the National Grange at the suggestion of Worthy Lecturer Messer, who is a most successful organizer of entertaining programs. It consisted in devoting the evening to Lecturer's work. The work was so admirably handled and so encouraging that it will doubtless continue to be a permanent feature in the Grange. The Lecturer called upon first one State Lecturer and then another to give their views as to the best means of promoting Grange work. Past Master Thompson, of Delaware, was introduced and made a few appropriate remarks. Worthy Master Knott, of West Virginia, submitted his report. The Master then declared the Grange in open session, and the Worthy Lecturer took charge of the proceedings, introducing S. O. Bowen, of Pennsylvania; Oliver Wilson, of Illinois; W. W. Greer, of California; and Ed. Wiggins, of Maine, all of whom made interesting addresses on the importance of the Lecturer's work in the Order.

Secretary Trimble read a paper from the Lecturer of the New Hampshire Grange. He was followed by E. B. Cole, Lecturer of the New York State Grange, who made a most interesting address. Mrs. O. J. Woodman, of Michigan, made an interesting and instructive address, which was well received. J. S. Robinson, Lecturer of the Maryland State Grange, made an interesting address. Mr. Towle, of New Hampshire State Grange, made a most interesting address, and the evening was closed by an address of F. H. Plinn, of the American Agriculturist.

HOW THE GRANGES SPENT SUNDAY. Every hour of Sunday was used by the visiting Grangers to enjoy the beautiful day. Accepting the kind invitation to attend the First Presbyterian Church, about 200 of the members listened to Dr. Talmage in the morning, and nearly 100 at night. A large number attended the Metropolitan M. E. Church at night. The visitors scattered over the city during the afternoon, some visiting the Zoo and others the Soldiers' Home and Arlington. They were there, and pleased with everything they have seen and with the entire session so far as it has progressed.

SIXTH DAY.

An American Policy Recommended for the New Administration—Report of the Committee on Co-operation. Visit to Mt. Vernon. TUESDAY, NOV. 17. The Committee on Resolutions reported that it was not deemed advisable to take action at the present time in relation to the printing of cartoons of farmers in political

campaigns. It also reported that the representatives of State Granges be urged to use every effort possible to have a text-book on agriculture introduced in the public schools. The committee further reported: "That this National Grange does not and never has endorsed what is known as the Lukin proposition to pay export bounty on agricultural products."

Brother Aaron Jones, of Indiana, read a report, in which he said that the Grange was "fairly prosperous." The hard times and political campaign had retarded Grange matters some, but three new Granges had been organized and several dormant ones had been reorganized, while a notable increase had been made in the membership of other Granges.

Of California, Brother W. W. Greer said: "Not a single Grange has gone out of existence during the year, and we are making progress, but no new Granges have been organized. The finances of the State Grange are safe and good. We are out of debt, and have a fund on hand sufficient for all reasonable demands."

ministration for the settlement of disputed claims so earnestly contested in the last campaign."

"Legislation on American lines is the crying want of the hour. The people see it and demand it, and we betide the man, party, or organization that ignores the stubborn facts. We should, by conservative action for American farmers, declare in favor of laws general in their provisions, devoid of all class tendencies by construction or otherwise, to the end that equal immunities and responsibilities be distributed to all. Recognizing that this body is but the connecting link between the voter and law-maker, we should seek to take each by the hand, thus forming the combination to assure success on co-operative lines. The Legislative Committee is hereby instructed to lay before Congress that part of this report relating to governmental action for a wise adjustment of all questions now agitating the public mind, to the end that prosperity may once more fill our favored land."

H. O. DEVRIES, "E. D. HOWE, "J. R. SMITH, "FRANKIE M. GREER, "M. L. RHONE, "Committee."

VISITING WASHINGTON'S TOMB.

During the afternoon the members of the National Grange became the guests of Potomac, Virginia, and West Virginia Granges, and were escorted over the electric line to Mount Vernon, where the grounds, mansion and tomb of Washington were inspected, the party returned to the city in time for dinner. A vote of thanks later in the evening was unanimously passed.

Soon after 7 o'clock the meeting reconvened and Article 8 of the constitution, by which the Grange is organized, was amended so to provide for biennial elections of officers of Subordinate Granges and District Granges, if the State Grange so desires; otherwise, the elections will be annual, as heretofore.

The Grange rejected Brother Leonard Rhone proposed to the Executive Committee.

SEVENTH DAY.

The Educational Problem—Free School Books Recommended—Rally Against Trusts—Reciprocity. WEDNESDAY, NOV. 18. The proceedings opened in the fourth degree. Worthy Master Brigham urged expedition in disposing of the business of the day. The report of the Committee on the Good of the Order was a lengthy document, in which the necessity of education, particularly in agricultural pursuits, was strongly urged.

The Committee on Constitution and By-Laws rendered an address on the proposed amendment to Article 8, Section 6 of the Constitution, as follows:

"That no State Grange shall be entitled to representation in the National Grange whose dues are unpaid for more than one quarter, and which has not 15 Subordinate Granges in good standing with total membership of not less than 500 members."

The same committee also reported adversely on this resolution: "That our representatives to the next session of the National Grange endeavor to procure a constitution amendment whereby a dual representation may be secured to the Subordinate Potomac and State Granges by election when such representation as is now provided for is impracticable."

In its report the Committee on Dormant Granges said:

"We find that conditions are different in various parts of our country, and possibly no one rule will apply equally to all sections. TO FIGHT ALL TRUSTS. "We believe there are but few States that have not many true Patrons who would be glad to devote time and talent to build up our Order. We recommend that the Executive Committee be instructed to employ Lecturers to work in the States which in their judgment are the most propitious fields for organization, provided the States will pledge themselves to follow up the work of the Lecturers by Local Organizers, as we believe the actual work of organizing must be done

by the home workers. In the early days, when the Grange took aggressive stand against monopolies of all kinds and endeavored to rid themselves of the surplus of middle men, members flocked to the organization."

"We must again take a positive stand, know what we want, and then demand it. Our request be granted. We believe the National Grange should settle and define a business policy of co-operation, making it so plain that its methods of proceeding could be understood by every farmer in the land. These business arrangements could be made by the Executive Committee, so that the Eastern farmers could secure from the great West and South their cotton-seed and corn, etc., with profit to both producer and consumer."

"Reciprocity between Granges, we believe, would result in great good. Besides co-operating in buying and selling, we should insist on mutual insurance, and make it a prominent feature in Grange work."

"Many farmers have joined the Grange for the benefits they derive from insurance and co-operation alone, who have learned many truths in regard to the Order and are now counted among its strongest adherents. In the States that are strong enough not to need financial aid, we would recommend that the Worthy Lecturer, and also the Executive Committee, keep in close touch with the Master. We earnestly request that the Executive Committee take prompt action to restore all of our States on the Grange roll. We must remember that we are in the true sense of the word a National organization, and never can we be the success which the founders of the Order contemplated until each star is represented on our honored banner. We recommend that the Executive Committee be authorized to appropriate for organization and reorganization such sum of money as in its judgment is best for the Order."

EDUCATION. The report from the Committee on Education, unanimously adopted, was this: "The development of education in the last few years is marvelous. Never have the people at large had more sound educational ideas, understanding its purposes, the need for it, as at the present time. We can scarcely realize it is hardly more than 100 years since education for the masses has been seriously considered. The old Platonic doctrine is passing away, and the sons of mechanics, laborers, and farmers become scholars, philosophers, the leaders and rulers of society, filling the highest positions that their talents, training, and character fit them for. Hundreds of things known a century ago only to professional men are now the property of the child of the laborer."

CITY ADVANTAGES FOR COUNTRY CHILDREN. "City advantages for country children should be the rallying cry of an educational campaign. As it is now, the facilities are against their receiving more than an elementary education, there being no provision made for high school privileges in the rural districts of most States. The high schools should be accessible to all girls and boys who have completed creditably the elementary course, whether in city or country. Massachusetts has made the support of high schools compulsory in all places of a certain population and valuation. Why should not this provision be made a general one?"

"We would recommend that the adoption of free text books be made obligatory through policy would enlarge the market of the American farmers."

RECIPROCITY. Early in the session a resolution was offered favoring reciprocity with England, France, and Germany. It was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, which, yesterday, notified the Grange that a majority and minority report would be presented. The majority report recommended that we favor reciprocity treaties with all foreign countries with which we have trade relations, on all articles not grown or manufactured in the United States, believing that such a policy would enlarge the market of the American farmers."

The substitute precipitated a debate which

A PEN PICTURE

Many Women Will Recognize It.

"Oh, I am so nervous! No one ever suffered as I do! There isn't a well inch in my whole body! I honestly think my lungs are diseased, my chest pains me so; but I've no cough. I'm so weak at my stomach, and have indigestion horribly. Then I have palpitation, and my heart hurts me. How I am losing flesh! and this headache nearly kills me; and the backache!—why, I had hysterics yesterday!"

"There is that weight and bearing down feeling all the time; and there are pains in my groin and thighs. I can't sleep, walk, or sit. I'm diseased all over. The doctor? Oh! he tells me to keep quiet. Such mockery!"

An unhealthy condition of the female organs can produce all the above symptoms in the same person. In fact, there is hardly a part of the body that can escape those sympathetic pains and aches.

No woman should allow herself to reach such a perfection of misery when there is positively no need of it. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound acts promptly and thoroughly in such cases, strengthens the muscles, heals all inflammation, and restores the organ to its normal condition. Druggists are selling carloads of it. Mrs. Pinkham, at Lynn, Mass., will gladly and freely answer all letters asking for advice.

Mrs. E. Bishop, 1843 Pacific Street, Brooklyn, N.Y., suffered all the above described miseries. Now she is well. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound cured her. Write her about it.

A PROMINENT ACTRESS.

Writes: "I can't imagine the fearful condition I was in when I first wrote to you. I was simply of no use to myself or any one else. I had worked hard, and my nerves and travelling constantly. I ran the gamut of doctor's bills, and am right now, and am gaining flesh daily. I follow your advice faithfully in everything. Thank you ten thousand times for what your knowledge and Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound have done for me."

... If in doubt, write to Mrs. Pinkham for advice. ...

THE LYDIA E. PINKHAM MED. CO., Lynn, Mass.



Neglected Colds

mark the beginning of every Spring time, and only too often they are the beginning of the story of which Consumption is the end. Scott's Emulsion of Cod-liver Oil with Hypophosphites will soothe a cough, heal the inflamed membranes and restore the parts to a healthy condition. It will do this promptly and permanently. Taken in time it saves the patient the expense and suffering of a long illness.

Don't experiment with substitutes when you can get Scott's Emulsion for a few cents more than you pay for a bottle of any other medicine.

An ounce of prevention—is a bottle of—Scott's Emulsion

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Quotations from Lowell.

God sends his teachers unto every age.
To every clime and every race of men.
With revelations fitted to their growth
And shape of mind, nor gives the realm of truth
Into the selfish rule of one sole race.

—Rheucus.

Eyes are not so common as people think or
poets would be pensive.
—A Good Word for Winter.

They are slaves who dare not be
But for a time, be that sublime,
In the right with two or three.

Greatly begin: though thou have time
But for a time, be that sublime,
Not failure, but low aim is crime.

In general those who nothing have to say
Contrive to spend the longest time in doing it;
They turn and vary it in every way.
Hashing it, stewing it, mincing it, ragoutting it.
—An Oriental Apologue.



Regret.

Malicious upon this new style coming in I
Bitter tears for the fashion that goes!
For the first is a subject of sore chagrin
To myself, and of joy to my foes.

For the halcyon days that have been and are
Gone
My heart unconsciously grieves;
The loss of the sweetest of duties mourn—
That of tucking in Dorothy's sleeves.

—Charles Ashley Hardy, Life.

Prayer.

More things are wrought by prayer
Than this world dreams of. Wherefore, let thy
voice
Rise like a fountain for night and day.
For what are men better than sheep and goats,
That nourish a blind life within 'em train,
If knowing God, they lift not hands of prayer,
Both for themselves and those who call them
friend?

For so, the whole round earth is every way
Bound by gold chains about the feet of God.
—Fenelon.

ABOUT WOMEN.

A WESTERN WOMAN KILLED
an eagle with a stick-pin.

THERE IS A TOWN IN FLORIDA
named Trilby, and the streets are
named after other characters in Du
Maurier's famous story.

IN CERTAIN PARTS OF CHINA
the young women weave scarlet ribbons
into their long, closely-plaited
braids, to signify that they are marriage-
able.

MRS. NATHANIEL T. BRITTON,
wife of President Britton, of Colum-
bia College, New York, has made a study
of ferns and mosses, and is about to
produce a book on the subject.

THE PRINCE OF WALES, AC-
cording to the *Figaro*, is the greatest
spendthrift in the world. To make this
interesting paragraph come duly into a
column marked "About Women," one
must add that the Prince is the husband
of the Princess of Wales.

THE DUCHESS OF MARLBORO,
having entertained the Prince and
Princess of Wales, is now on the very tip-
top of English society, and the American
girl, as usual, gets what she wants,
though in this case it cost her a pretty
figure, for, according to gossip, the Duke
cost her some \$15,000,000.

IT IS TOLD THAT DARWIN DE-
lighted in hearing his wife read
novels to him, and that he enjoyed
backgammon very much. They played
two games every night, and Darwin
was as sorrowful over the loss of a
game and elated over a gain, as if he
were just an ordinary man, and not one
of the greatest naturalists that ever
lived.

A PHILADELPHIA GIRL MAKES
trunk-packing a profession. She is an
expert in stowing away chiffon waists and
velvet capes and other perishable com-
binations so that they shall not be mussed.
She enjoys doing her work well, too.
People who can afford it are glad to be
rid of the trouble of packing, and just
before the Summer season begins she is
particularly busy. She makes a spe-
cialty of packing trousseau trunks and
wedding gifts.

MRS. CASTLE, AN AMERICAN,
has been sentenced by the English
courts to three months' imprisonment
for shoplifting. The case is exciting a
good deal of interest, because the woman
is a Californian of wealth, and of good
standing, but she seems to have a true
case of kleptomania—a nervous dis-
ease—a mania for taking things from

shops. She was obviously ill and suf-
fering when the Judge sentenced her, and
had to be taken immediately to the hos-
pital ward of the prison. Since the
writing the woman has been released.

A TWELVE-YEAR-OLD WASH-
ington girl, Margaret McDonald,
revolutionized the art of making paper
dolls, and enjoys a goodly profit from
the work of her pencil, paints, and
scissors. As a child she painted pretty
heads and costumes for paper dolls, and
devised a most ingenious arrangement
of slips and straps to hold the frocks in
place on the doll figures. A big pub-
lishing firm took up her work about
three or four years ago, and published
a series of her dolls that met with great
success all over the country. Her dolls
are the "Winsome Winnies," "Dolly
Delights," "Lady Bettys," and others
already familiar to the little girls of the
land. Since then she has added Kings
and Queens, fairy dolls, and Mother
Goose characters to the paper-doll
household. She is now an art student,
with serious ambitions to become an
illustrator.

FADS AND FASHIONS.

Buckles of all sorts—silver ones for a
quarter and gold-studded ones for
\$25 or \$50—are worn nowadays, and also
buckles of Russian enamel, silver-gilt
buckles, pearl buckles and buckles
jeweled with amethysts, turquoises, or
topazes. Fillagree buckles and heavy
plain buckles are to be seen in all the
shops. Buckles worn by the girls with
their bicycle suits and by the matrons
with their tea gowns, are worn with
brocade evening frocks and serge busi-
ness suits.

A handsome frock for an elderly lady,
taken from *The Ladies' Home Journal*—
the elderly lady was not taken from
that publication, but the design for the
frock—may be copied in a fine serge,
ladies' cloth, cashmere, Henrietta or any
material of light or moderate weight,



and is prettiest copied in gray and white
jet trimmings. The skirt is well-gored
and plain. The waist is made with
basque pieces over the hips and ruffled
revers over the shoulders. These revers
may be of silk or of dress material, if it
be light weight, and are trimmed just
above the edge with a narrow jet trim-
ming. A full vest front of chiffon, lace
or soft silk, is edged on either side by a
band over the shoulder, ending in the
shoulder seam, which may be of jet,
velvet or lace insertion over satin. In
this dress the band is of open jet-work
over white satin; a comfortable collar
and full sleeves finished with frills or
bands at the wrist complete the costume,
which is handsome enough for almost
any occasion. The vest front may be
made close-fitting, of plain or brocade
silk.

The girls like collars, and with a
plain dress a collar of silk, velvet or lace
need be the only trimming. In the cut



the dress material is rough goods, soft
and fine in quality, and green in color,
with a plentiful weaving through of
loose, knotted black threads. The collar
is circular, and reaches just to the tip
of the shoulders, and is of black satin, fur-

edged and trimmed just above the fur
with a narrow ecru lace insertion. With
a folded black satin belt finished with a
big bow, a frill of doubled black satin
at the wrists, a long, plain, untrimmed
gored-skirt, the gown is complete. The
collar may be of brocade or flowered
silk, edged with a frill of doubled chiffon
and trimmed with a narrow, sparkling
bead trimming.

A black-and-white striped silk waist
worn with a black skirt makes a stylish
combination. In these days a woman
cannot wear a waist and skirt if they
do not harmonize. Last Winter the
more 'bright-green waists she wore with
blue skirts, the costume brightened by
a magenta ribbon around her throat,
the better; but this Winter we are more
artistic and the skirt must match the
prevailing color of the waist.

A hint to stout women: Avoid long-
haired furs; seal and Persian lamb
should be your choice.

It's a wise woman who sews the bind-
ing on her skirt with stout linen thread.

Cock's feathers seem to delight fair
ladies nowadays. An English walking
hat decorated with a baker's dozen
sprawling, fluttering, shining, cock feath-
ers is worn by every fourth bride one
sees on the Washington streets.

Woman.

Woman at best is a contradiction
still.—Pope.

The best woman is the one least
talked about.—Frederick von Schiller.

The sweetest thing in life is the un-
clouded welcome of a wife.—Nathaniel
Parker Willis.

It is no more possible to do without a
wife than it is to dispense with eating
and drinking.—Martin Luther.

I have seen more than one woman
drown her honor in the clear water of
diamonds.—Comtesse d'Houdetot.

Before going to war, say a prayer;
before going to sea, say two prayers;
before marrying, say three prayers.—Pro-
verb.

Such a duty as the subject owes the
prince, even such a worthy woman to
her husband.—Shakespeare.

A continual dropping in a very rainy
day and a contented woman are alike.
—Old Testament.

Wretched un-idea'd girls.—Samuel
Johnson.

We shall find no fiend in hell can
match the fury of a disappointed woman.
—scorned! alighted! dismissed
without a parting pang.—Colley Cibber.

HERE AND THERE.

Apropos of reproving and punishing
children, Rousseau, the French philoso-
pher has this to say:

"You will indeed make a mere animal
of him by this method if you are
continually directing him and saying:
'Go, come, stay, do this, stop doing that!'
If your head is always to guide his arm
his own head will be of little use to him."

Most children are sensitive, and more
so than their elders imagine. A rebuke
before strangers is for a long time a painful
memory to the child, and an angry
rebuks is sometimes never forgotten; and,
as Rousseau says, let the little one find
out ways of doing things for himself
occasionally; do not be continually di-
recting him.

A woman usually classifies all of her
minor ills under the term headache, and
generally has one cure for the whole lot,
though a headache is merely one painful
symptom of various troubles. It may be
a headache from indigestion; then care-
ful diet will help to relieve it. Careless-
ness in the use of the eyes is another
frequent cause for headache. One
should never read nor sew except with a
good, strong light falling over the left
shoulder. Nervous headaches are the
heritage of the very busy woman. She,
of course, should avoid over-doing—
which is more easily said than done. A
hot foot-bath and a nap will help one in
the trouble. If sleep be impossible one
should at least lie down in a semi-dark-
ened room and try to rest and try not to
bother over the household troubles.
Good health and good spirits will help
much in surmounting difficulties, and it
is poor economy to wear out one's body
and nerves, even in doing for others.

Very few plants, if any, can flourish
in a room where gas is used, and, in-
deed, even lamp-light is said to injure
them somewhat, though only to a small
degree as compared to gaslight. Plants,
even more than girls, must have their
beauty sleep.

Sand or flour sprinkled over burn-
ing grease will smother the flame. A
box of sand should be kept handy in
every house where there are children
and lamps are used.

Clean isinglass with vinegar and
water.

A canary bird enjoys hugely a break-
fast of a hard-boiled egg. Crumble the
egg, mix it with cracker crumbs and a
tiny bit of cayenne pepper, and feed the
bird in the morning, and see how he en-
joys it. But don't let him be greedy
over it, or he can't sing so well.

Americans are beginning to appre-
ciate the beauty of the English fashion of
using cretonne and chintz in furnishing
a house economically. Plushes ought
never be used for furniture or draperies
in a small house or one where more

thrift must be expended than money.
Our furniture dealers offer as their
choicest bargains gaudy blue and red
plush "parlor suites," but a wise little
housewife will beware of them, and will
have chintz-covered furniture, with low
or cane and light wood chairs to
lend variety; will hang fresh dotted-
muslin curtains in her window, with
chintz curtains hanging over them, if
she desires the double pair, and will
have a bright, fresh room that will
not become dingy and stuffy in a
few months. Cheap plush furniture
"wears" miserably.

In the same manner a woman who
cannot afford silken-covered cushions
for her couch can buy cretonne-covered
ones that will be bright and pretty, and
just as soft and comfortable as the more
expensive ones.

To sweep a carpet without raising the
dust is not an easy task. A wet broom
spots the carpet and makes the room
"smelly," salt is a miserable aid, tea
leaves are apt to leave spots unless they
be very well drained off, but the best of
all is said to be scraps of newspaper,
fine bits wetted, scattered over the floor
and then swept up.

A list of Christmas gifts may perhaps
carry a gleam of a suggestion to some
one struggling with the problems of
Christmas giving, when there are so
many people to be remembered and such
a slender purse to accomplish all that
the kindly heart wishes.

The list includes gifts that come
within the range of a dollar or two or
less—one can buy many very pretty
things for a dollar.

For the dear mother, there are
handkerchiefs, an excellent quality of
linen for a quarter, embroidered or
plain, very daintily embroidered ones
for a dollar, and lace-edged ones for a
dollar and a half. Books are welcome
to most of us, and pretty editions of
poetry—old and new—and sweet love
tales and powerful essays and travels
and standard works of all sorts come in
easy prices. There are calendars most
exquisitely flowered, and with a Scrip-
tural quotation for every day or month,
or there are the poets' calendars, Dickens
calendars, and all sorts of delightful
varieties. If the mother embroider or
is fond of fine needle work, a tiny pair
of silver-handled scissors will be ap-
propriate; they only do to snip threads
with, but embroiderers like them; they
cost about \$1.25. For 40 cents one
can buy a red strawberry emery with a
silver top that will grace a work basket.

Pretty house slippers, a dressing sack
made of fine cashmere and sewed with
pretty loving stitches; a silver pen-
holder; a chiffon or lace fichu or
scarf; small pieces of china or silver
ware for her dining room; fine em-
broideries; a little clock; a subscription
to one of the magazines or papers that
she likes; a little piece of cut glass, or a
knitted petticoat—there is plenty to
think of for the mother.

For the father one must be more
cautious. You can't buy him ties or
cigars unless you know exactly what
color he likes best in the one and what
brand of the other. A man who never
wears any but black ties will be
made miserable with a silver gray one,
and the lad who is pining for a narrow
dark-red satin tie will not be content
with a brown Persian cravat. But
there are slippers; dress suspenders;
a clock or lamp, should he need one or
the other; handkerchiefs always are
safe for him, but know whether he likes
silk or linen best, for a man is apt to
like one kind very much and the other
not at all. Books of course—if you
know what he wants—or a magazine for
the year; a new whip, if he be fond of
his horses; a fountain pen if he be a
busy man, and one who has often to use
his pen—a man who writes but seldom
has very little patience with a fountain
pen; or an umbrella or cane. Wristlets
are good if he will wear them. They
should be made with a fine close stitch;
clumsy ones are so very ugly.

For the daughter of the house, any-
thing from a 25-cent silver stick pin or
linen handkerchief, up to a five dollar box
of sweets or a \$100 bicycle, will come
in handy. Handkerchiefs, books, calen-
dars, silver-mounted things for her toilet
table, a pretty chair or rug for her room,
a potted fern or flower, a new silk waist,
a fur tippet, silver things for her work-
basket or writing desk, a spread or
cushions for her couch, a candlestick or
mirror, cups for her tea table, a tall
slim glass vase for her rose or small one
for her violets, flowery calendars, lace-
edged handkerchiefs, silver or jeweled hat
pins, buckles, slippers to wear with her
wrappers, or high-heeled dancing slippers,
an umbrella or umbrella clasp—there
are thousands of things for girls.

The young man will like about what
his father does, except his books must be
tales of adventure and he is more apt
to hanker after red neckties and big
cans. If he be 16 or so he is obliged to
have a big, one-bladed knife, "hunt-
ing-knives," I believe the boys call them.
If he be a wheel-man, a fine lamp will
please him, but the best lamps cost four
or five dollars. For the small girls dolls
and "doll things" and for the little boys,
steam toy boats and engines seem to be
the greatest need.

How to Cure Corns.
Dr. Soshue says linseed oil is a sure
remedy for both hard and soft corns. If
they are indurate and very painful, the
relief it gives in a short time is most
grateful. Bind on a soft rag saturated
with linseed oil, and continue to dampen
it with the oil night and morning until
the corn is removed easily and without
pain.

"Children Teething."
Mrs. WINGLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP should
always be used for children teething. It
cures the child, softens the gums, reduces
pain, cures wind colic, and is the best remedy
for diarrhea. Twenty-five cents a bottle.

WOMAN'S WISDOM.

Christmas Doings.

How lonely the Farmhouse Department
looked in the November number. Not a
member present. I wonder if all were so
busy making Christmas presents, that they
could not spare a few moments to write? I
have been very busy, but not making pres-
ents, but house-cleaning and getting ready
for cold weather, has detained me from
visiting this department. Now I am going
to tell you of a few things that would make
some friends happy for Christmas. A table-
cloth would make a very useful present.
For 50 cents a yard, one can often get a
nice piece, and two yards is plenty for a
small family. This could be hemstitched,
which would improve its appearance very
much.

A clothespin-bag would be another useful
present, and the cost would be but a trifle.
The half a yard of unbleached muslin,
folded twice and round off the corners at
the bottom, sew up, then take a dinner-plate
and mark out a half circle from side at
top. Face the circle with a bias piece
of cloth and turn a hem across the top deep
enough to run a gingham tape through. If
one is handy with a brush and paint, a few
designs, such as a tub, clothes-pin, or a line
with a few clothes pinned on, would improve
its appearance, and would be an appropriate
gift to a friend who has a family to wash for.
A linen handkerchief hemstitched around
would also be nice and cost but a little. It
is not so much the cost of an article, but the
spirit in which it is given, that makes it a
welcome gift. If each one would try and
make one outside of the money, they would
be many happy people on Christmas
day.—Mrs. R. A. O.

Concerning Master Baby and His Bath.

One of the most important comforts for
baby's bath is often omitted, according to
the *London Mail*. If not, strictly speaking,
a part of baby's wardrobe, at least a very
necessary and valuable adjunct to it is the
flannel apron worn by the nurse or other
dignitary who presides at the morning tub.
Very often, just as the little one is about to
be plunged into the water, it will be found
that some of the thousand and one accessories
necessary to the accomplishment of this in-
tricate performance, and which were supposed
to be ready at hand, are missing. In a
trice, with the baby still in her arms,
nurse can toss the long apron snugly about
him and safely go in quest of the needed
article without incurring the slightest risk of
her charge taking cold.

The contact of the soft, warm flannel with
the tender skin will be very grateful to the
baby during the somewhat lengthy process of
washing and drying.

After the bath is completed, it will be well
to keep baby closely wrapped in the apron
for a few minutes before beginning to dress
him. This will insure him a season of really
needed repose, for the full bath, especially to
a delicate child, is often accompanied by con-
siderable fatigue.

Procure for the apron a yard of soft, fine
flannel—the very best you can get; hem
it neatly down the sides and across the
bottom, and finish at the top with a drawing-
string, so that it may be extended to its en-
tire width when washed. Babies who have
had a dread of the daily bath, crying
through the entire process, will, when they
have a cold cotton apron, will smile contentedly
when the soft, warm flannel one is substituted.

For a Gentleman's Room.

Handsome handkerchief boxes are croch-
eted of macramé cord, and molded upon a
block of wood of the proper size and shape.
Make the bottom of the box and one inch of
the sides of some very close pattern. Crochet
the new cord in open spaces, so that a ribbon
an inch wide may be woven in and out all
around the box. The last inch and a half is
crocheted close again. The lid is made like
the bottom of the box, and one inch deep; or
if preferred leave space all around the top,
and one inch from the sides and bottom, just
as described for the side of the box. Rub stiff
starch into the work, draw it over the
mold, and pull out the edges evenly and in
good shape. Set in a warm (not hot) oven to
dry. Then take it off the mold, and give it
three or four coats of varnish, allowing each
coat plenty of time to dry. Line with blue,
pink, or red satin, and run ribbon of the
same color as lining through the spaces left
for it. A collar and cuff box may be
crocheted in the same way. The bottom
should be crocheted about three inches in
diameter, and crocheted very close. When
you begin on the side, crochet four rows of
solid short stitch. Then open spaces for
ribbon, and after that four rows of short
stitch. Make the lid an inch deep, crochet
a ring and fasten it to the lid to lift it by.

To make a slipper case, cut a piece of
pasteboard in the shape of a shield, 16 inches
long and 12 inches wide, for the back. Cover
the front side with plush, velvet, or broad-
cloth, and the back with cambric. Cut two
pieces of cardboard the size and shape for
the front parts. Cover them just like the
back, and join them to it, neatly rounding
them so the slipper can be put in. A narrow
ribbon or braid finishes all the edges, and a
silk cord and tassels are used to hang it by.
Embroider a bunch of daisies and leaves in
their natural colors with Roman floss on each
of the front parts, and near the top of the
shield.

Pretty thermometers are made by cutting a
piece of pasteboard about three inches longer
than wide, and about one inch thick. The
should be removed from the tin frame. Cover
with plush, velvet, or linen, upon which you
have embroidered a design of golden-rod.
Fasten the thermometer to it with strong glue,
or by piercing each corner with an awl and
sewing it to the plush.

For a waste-paper basket use a willow one
of any size desired. Line the bottom and
sides with dark-blue silkoline. Get a piece
of golden-brown felt about eight inches wide,
and just long enough to reach around the
basket. Cut the ends in squares, making
the ends pointed. Embroider a design in
outline just above the points, with blue
Asiatic twisted embroidery silk. Crochet
wheels of the same silk, and tie heavy silk
fringe in the lower part of the wheel, mak-
ing a tassel. Fasten a wheel to each point of
the felt, allowing the fringe to fall below it,
then join the felt neatly around the top of
the basket.

A pretty pen rack may be made of an old
house shoe. Make the wooden pins to fit into
the nail holes, and cover it all with tinfoil.
Hang it up with cord or ribbon. A letter-
case is made of two pieces of cardboard, one
round for the back and the other crescent-
shaped for the front. Cover both pieces with
silk or satin, upon which you have embroid-
ered small sprays of flowers in their natural
colors with Asiatic silk floss. Join the outer
edges of the two pieces with invisible stitches
and fasten narrow ribbons to hang it by.—
WESTERN HOUSEKEEPER.

His Ambition.

"Oh, dear!" sighed the Hippopotamus,
"I am so tired of this circus life. I wish
some nice little boy would buy me
for a pet. I'd love to sit in a little
boy's lap and have him call me Fido,
and let me crawl into his bed and bite
his toes every morning like a puppy-
dog."—Harper's Round Table.

Splinters.

A Georgia man was arrested for
carrying whisky in his bicycle tires.
They probably charged him with pedal-
ing it without a license.—Cleveland
Plain Dealer.

HOME TABLE.

A meringue rice pudding will please
the home folks who have tired of the
usual arrangement of rice desserts.
Cook the rice in milk—a cup of rice to
a quart of milk—or in smaller or larger
proportions as needed. When it is ten-
der stir in the yolks of three eggs which
have been well beaten; add sugar to the
taste and vanilla, heaps of raisins, nut-
meg, a trifle of lemon juice or whatever
flavoring is best liked, and turn the mix-
ture in a buttered baking dish. Make
a meringue by beating the whites of
the eggs very stiff, and adding to them
a little powdered sugar. Spread this
lightly and thickly over the top of the
rice and brown it lightly in the oven.

APPLE JELLY CAKE.

Cream one cup sugar and three table-
spoonfuls of butter; add three eggs, one-
third of a cup of milk, one and one-
half cups of flour. Sift one and one-
half cups of flour, and sift it many
times. Stir it into the cake, reserving a
small amount to accompany the baking-
powder, of which two teaspoonfuls will
be needed. Stir this into a small part
of the flour, sift it well, and add to the
cake-batter at the last moment, stirring
as little as possible after the baking-
powder is in. Bake in three layers.

JELLY FOR THE FILLING.

Juice of one lemon, a little of the
grated rind, one cupful of sugar, two
tablespoons of cornstarch, and one egg well
beaten. Stir all together, and simmer
till the right thickness to put between
the layers; cool, put the layers together,
and frost the top with a soft white frost-
ing flavored with lemon.

This cake is also delicious with a
cream filling, or baked in a sheet and
covered with whipped cream sweetened
and flavored with vanilla.

Sweet potato croquets may be most
delicious. Take cold, boiled sweet po-
tatoes, put them through a potato-sieve
or a colander, press them in flat cakes,
dip in egg, roll them in crumbs, and fry
them brown.

Physicians and scientists agree that
hot or fresh bread is much more indig-
estible than old bread. In Germany
there is a law that no bread must be
sold before it is a day old. The Ameri-
cans are credited with making the worst
bread in all the world, anyway, and, be-
sides, they consume an inordinate quan-
tity of hot bread, and on the bread
question generally, seem to be below the
average in civilization. The American
bread is soggy and heavy, and has too
little crust to be truly hygienic, and,
furthermore, the fine white flour has lost
much of its nutritive value. All that
goes to make teeth and bone and to
build up a fine nervous system is bolted
from the wheat.

To make the best of dried fruits soak
them a long while and cook them a
short while.

Peanuts after being shelled, deprived
of the red coating and chopped fine, are
added to the stuffing of a duck with
good effect.

Creamed chicken with rice makes a
dainty dish, fit to set before a king.
Cook the rice in a double boiler so that
it will be light and dry and with each
grain separate. Take cold roast chicken
and remove all the fat, skin and bones,
cut it up moderately fine and heat it in
a cream sauce. Make the sauce by
creaming together a scant tablespoonful
of flour with a heaping tablespoonful of
butter. Put this in a pan, melt it, and
add a cupful of milk. Let this cook
until it thickens, stirring it carefully
all the time, that it may be smooth. Put
the chicken and whatever chicken gravy
that may be in the sauce, and when it
is hot through and through serve on a
platter with the rice in a ring around
the chicken and sauce.

A Brown Frock.

A pretty frock of brown is made with
a box-pleated waist with a square yoke,
or it may be a separate short, square
collar of ecru lace over brown satin.
This style may be varied. The yoke



may be of velvet, or, for a white frock,
the gown of fine white wool and a sepa-
rate square collar of white lace over
white satin. If a fair damsel choose to
wash and make over an old white silk
or wool frock, she can fashion for herself
a collar of ecru lace over green satin, and
with a green satin belt she will be as
fair as a lily. For pink-checked blondes
or fair-skinned women with light-brown
hair, there is no lovelier costume than a
white gown with leaf-green satin or vel-
vet for contrast.

Nothing in bath or laundry so good as Borax.
Dobbin's Floating-Borax Soap needs but one
trial to prove its value. Costs same as poorest
floating soap. No one has ever tried it without
buying more. Your gro

AN UNEXPECTED EMOTION, And the Consequences Thereof Which Presently Ensued.

Who would ever think of going to a great city, such as New York, to find anything like an emotion?

Now, in the pretty little provincial city where I lived, an emotion was quite to be expected. Emotions grew luxuriantly in every dry-goods store, and blossomed in tropical richness in every millinery shop. A bit of gracefully-folded dress stuff, or a coquettish hat, or a simple slipper in a show window would make a busy man's heart beat faster, and when spring came with the fancies that lightly turn whether they should turn, a shirtwaist became a poem, and a bow of bright ribbon was a picture to dream dreams over.

But whoever heard of an emotion in the great city? There the shirtwaist is hung up by the neck as if it were a criminal, and the coquettish hat bears an unsightly tag, inscribed: "98 cents; marked down from \$18.25."

Where is the romance in that? I say "romance," for romance is the result of an emotion. The emotionless human being is incapable of romance, and life without romance is a desert with sand spread eight feet thick all over its surface.

I had been in New York a week on a month's vacation, and, strange to relate, I had experienced an emotion. Extremely violent it was, too, and



A HARMONY IN BLUE.

rapidly growing worse. In my own town I had experienced one day, I presume, during the entire course of my matured bachelorhood, but they had yielded readily to treatment, leaving no scars or other serious effects. This one, however, had continued for an entire week, and, as I have previously stated, was rapidly growing worse.

I had arrived at my hotel one afternoon about four o'clock, and, after a pleasant stroll of an hour, had reached the conclusion announced above, to wit, the absolute emotionlessness of the great city. In this frame of mind I returned, and in due course went to my dinner. It was a good dinner, and when a man has a good dinner before him, with ample space for its accommodation, any summer attraction must be powerful indeed to distract him.

I was just on the point of sticking my fork into a piece of rare roast beef that was simply a symphony in pink, when I observed a young woman taking her place at a table adjoining mine, and directly in my line of vision.

If the roast beef were a symphony in pink, which it undoubtedly was, the young woman was a harmony in blue which made the symphony in pink fade and wither as a flower.

It is not necessary for me to describe her, for thousands of readers fairly revel in descriptions of loveliness, but it is absolutely impossible. All I remember is that she was gowned in blue of the bluest, sweetest that ever a woman wears; that her eyes were blue and as dark as her gown was light; that her hair was parted in the middle and fell across her pink-and-white temples in golden waves; that—that—really, I must be pardoned for declining to further attempt the impossible.

All the melody had left my roast beef now, and there was no poetry in the pie when it appeared. Everything before me was merely the prosaic necessity of food, and I was experiencing an emotion; an emotion such as I had never known, and in an atmosphere, as I supposed, deadly to romance.

I tried hard not to let my eyes run away with me and run over her, and succeeded sufficiently well to prevent embarrassment, but they were exceedingly restive, and once or twice, possibly more than that, she detected me gazing at her.

I was not so bad looking for a man of 35 that I could not flatter myself a woman might find a more unpleasant sight than Mr. John Durham Fairfax, banker and bachelor, and I did not attempt to conceal myself from the eyes of the young woman.

By the time dinner was finished I felt satisfied that we would know each other if we met again, and on this slender foundation I built a superstructure of dissent to part from her before I had learned who she was.

I did not know whether she was a "permanent" or "transient" in the hotel, but I did know that I was ready to go to the ends of the earth to find out all about her, and I did not care greatly whether she was there to stay a day or a year.

As a rule, a city hotel is a dreadfully difficult place for the promotion of acquaintance, though this one was rather more on the Summer hotel plan than the average, and I knew that the lane before me was to be a long one ere the turning came. I knew no one in the house, and did not care to—I mean I had not cared to before dinner—because my friends lived in their own houses, and my hotel was merely a roof to

shelter me when I couldn't go anywhere else.

I don't know why I did, but I sat around the lobby of the hotel after dinner for an hour, and once when I heard the soft tones of a piano on the parlor floor, I went in that direction so hurriedly that when I returned the clerk asked me if anything was the matter.

There was, but I was not throwing off information for the benefit of a hotel clerk.

The next evening at dinner Fate was propitious, for when I entered the dining room she had not been at her table more than two or three minutes. I am sure of this, for I waited around the entrance of the dining room until she appeared and then followed her.

"Fate?" remarked Napoleon Bonaparte, or in words to that effect; "I make Fate."

She was accompanied by her mother, whom I identified, without introduction, by the striking family likeness, and as I took my seat I blushed to find myself looked at by both ladies. Evidently the plot was thickening, and I felt that so far I was the only villain in it.

There might be another man—there always is when he is least needed by the man who doesn't want him—but he had not yet appeared on the scene. How soon he would do so was the only cloud in my sky—the only speck on my romance.

By the time dinner was over—but why go into details? At the end of six days I was an emotional wreck. I thought of her all day and dreamed of her all night; I built air castles that fell down before I could get my tenant to take possession; I moped around the hotel; I didn't go to call on my friends; I folded my hands and remained in a perpetual condition of waiting for dinner. Not that I cared for the dinner, for my appetite had long since departed, but because that was the only time my wandering spirit could find rest.

At the dinner of the seventh day, my heart dropped with such a dull thud that the waiter looked under my chair to see if a loaf of bread had fallen off the table. There was a man with her! A friendly, cheerful sort of a soul who appeared to affect her pleasantly. He was apparently about my own age, that is to say, 10 years her senior, and was the only man I had ever seen during the whole course of my life in whose blood I yearned to dabble my fingers.

He was the man chosen of her heart, of course, else why had I been possessed of a wish to have his blood?

The very thought of it turned my dinner into sawdust, and before I had half finished it I hurried out of the house and madly mingled in the surging crowds on the street, vainly seeking relief for my perturbed spirits.

An hour later I returned. The hotel clerk wanted to tell me a delightful story he had just heard, but I was in no humor for it, and impolitely walked off and wandered aimlessly up to the parlor floor.

There I found some friends of mine calling on the mother of all my emotional disturbance, and before I could dodge and escape, they had seen me and called me into the room. I was duly presented to the lady, Mrs. Hardy, who, of course, recognized me at once, and told them that we were almost acquainted already. This she explained more fully, and she did it so charmingly that I began to feel better.

The callers left in the course of an hour, and Mrs. Hardy remained in the parlor, as she said her daughter had gone out with some friends and was expected back at any moment, and she wanted me to meet her.

That was friendly enough, and I wondered if she had the faintest idea of my state of mind.

"I am sure," I said, as I accepted her invitation to wait with her, "that you cannot realize how glad I am to meet you, Mrs. Hardy. You know, I have built up quite a romance, about your daughter, such a romance, and I laughed uncomfortably, 'that when I saw the gentleman at dinner with you this evening, I immediately began to look upon him as a rival.'"

"I've been looking for you all day!" he exclaimed joyfully. "Where the deuce do you keep yourself?"

I wanted to say that I kept myself out of his way as much as possible, but I forbore.

"You want to steer me into a game of buncle-billiards, do you?" I replied with a laugh that sounded to me like the wail of a departed spirit.

"I did earlier in the day," he admitted, smiling, "but I haven't time now. I'm going out to dinner, and the ladies request that you dine at their table this evening at the usual hour."

"Delighted," I lied, and we separated.

I never enjoyed a dinner less than I did that one, but I hoped sincerely that the ladies did not notice it. I might have known better, than to think they wouldn't, for Mrs. Chester was a most observant woman and a sympathetic one—that kind of a woman who seems to know intuitively the mind of a man and to analyze his moods. Wife though she was of Chester, I could not prevent myself from thinking of her as my own wife. I choked so at my disappointment that I had to explain it away as an awkward piece of chicken bone.

How short the step from the sublime to the ridiculous!

An emotion and a chicken bone! After dinner the ladies invited me to join them in their parlor, where Mrs. Hardy left us while she went to the apartments adjoining to attend some kind of a woman's meeting.

Mrs. Chester and I talked in a general way, as we had been talking at dinner, for some time, and at last she became personal.

"I want to ask your pardon, Mr. Fairfax," she said, "for what you may have considered an impropriety."

"The pardon is granted, Mrs. Chester," I replied, "for what you may have considered an impropriety."

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me this evening. Mr. Fairfax, this is my son-in-law, Mr. Chester."

Her son-in-law! No wonder she thought I was amusing when I asked her if he were her daughter's sweetheart. If any man ever experienced an emotional slump, I did at that very moment, and I can scarcely say why I did not fall down upon the floor and mingle myself with the rugs at my feet. But I did not. It was a man before whom I stood, and I did not want to betray my weakness to a man.

"Where's Mary?" inquired Chester, in the same matter-of-fact tone he would have employed in asking where the cow was.

"I'm looking for her every minute," said Mrs. Hardy. "She went out with Frank and his wife to make a call."

We must have talked for half an hour, though I was in no condition to

take note of time, by its flight or otherwise, and then the Harmony in Blue came. But it was no longer harmony. It was only a married woman in a blue dress.

Alas, what romances are driven into the desert of realism and swallowed up in its sands by marriage!

"Daughter," said Mrs. Hardy, "this is Mr. Fairfax. He is a friend of the Curtises. You know, Mr. Fairfax," she went on to say, as I bowed, "that my daughter is Mrs. Chester."

Of course I knew it, and the knowledge rested upon me as an insupportable burden.

"Well," inquired Chester, "did you have a nice call?"

"Lovely," responded Mrs. Chester. "I did very well myself while you were gone," he said. "I won a dozen games of billiards and didn't lose one."

By the way, Fairfax, he said to me, with a familiarity that was disagreeable, "do you play?"

"Not a very good game, I'm afraid," I said.

"You are the kind I'm looking for," he laughed, "and I'll see you to-morrow."

I was quite sure he wouldn't do anything of the kind if I could prevent it, though I did not say so.

I was not myself at all, and so felt the need of quiet after my painful experience of the evening that I said "good night" shortly after Mrs. Chester's arrival and went to my room.

What I dreamed of that night is too dreadful for publication.

When I awoke I determined to leave the hotel at once, but I remembered that my washing had not come in, and concluded to wait over two days for it.

From that day to this I have rejoiced that I did not belong to the Great Unwashed.

All that day I dodged Chester, who had nothing on earth to do but want to beat me at billiards, and I was determined not to gratify him. It was enough that he was the husband of the only woman on earth whom I truly loved. That is to say, whom I discovered that she was Mrs. Chester, my sense of propriety forbade the further encroachments of Cupid, and I began devoting all my time and energy to the task of removing her from my heart.

I escaped Chester until five o'clock, when he caught me as I was endeavoring to sneak into the hotel by way of the ladies' entrance.

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I wanted to say that I kept myself out of his way as much as possible, but I forbore.

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though I am sure I know of nothing to be pardoned."

"It has been going on ever since you came to the hotel," she continued, "and I was surprised into it at first. Then mamma noticed it, and I fear she has aided and abetted me in it."

"Really, Mrs. Chester, I don't understand."

That was the solemn truth, for I had seen no impropriety.

"Didn't you see me look at you the first evening you were at dinner?" she laughed. "And not only once, but often?"

"If I did I must have been looking at you," I said nervously, for I didn't want to talk about it, "and I must ask you to pardon me."

"You may have looked first, but I am sure you did not look with the interest that I did."

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THE ENIGMA.

(For the leisure hour of readers, old and young. All are invited to contribute original puzzles and send solutions to those published. Answers and names of solvers to this issue will appear in two months. An asterisk (*) after a definition signifies that the word is obsolete. Address letters for this department: "Puzzle Editor," AMERICAN FARMER, 1729 New York Ave., Washington, D. C.)

ENIGMATICS NO. 30.

- 287—Piled piled. 288—Fat-c. 289—SASSARI. 290—DIONIST. 291—ATTIRE. 292—INVENTS. 293—SASSARI. 294—DIONIST. 295—ATTIRE. 296—INVENTS. 297—SASSARI. 298—DIONIST. 299—ATTIRE. 300—INVENTS. 301—SASSARI. 302—DIONIST. 303—ATTIRE. 304—INVENTS. 305—SASSARI. 306—DIONIST. 307—ATTIRE. 308—INVENTS. 309—SASSARI. 310—DIONIST. 311—ATTIRE. 312—INVENTS. 313—SASSARI. 314—DIONIST. 315—ATTIRE. 316—INVENTS. 317—SASSARI. 318—DIONIST. 319—ATTIRE. 320—INVENTS. 321—SASSARI. 322—DIONIST. 323—ATTIRE. 324—INVENTS. 325—SASSARI. 326—DIONIST. 327—ATTIRE. 328—INVENTS. 329—SASSARI. 330—DIONIST. 331—ATTIRE. 332—INVENTS. 333—SASSARI. 334—DIONIST. 335—ATTIRE. 336—INVENTS. 337—SASSARI. 338—DIONIST. 339—ATTIRE. 340—INVENTS. 341—SASSARI. 342—DIONIST. 343—ATTIRE. 344—INVENTS. 345—SASSARI. 346—DIONIST. 347—ATTIRE. 348—INVENTS. 349—SASSARI. 350—DIONIST. 351—ATTIRE. 352—INVENTS. 353—SASSARI. 354—DIONIST. 355—ATTIRE. 356—INVENTS. 357—SASSARI. 358—DIONIST. 359—ATTIRE. 360—INVENTS. 361—SASSARI. 362—DIONIST. 363—ATTIRE. 364—INVENTS. 365—SASSARI. 366—DIONIST. 367—ATTIRE. 368—INVENTS. 369—SASSARI. 370—DIONIST. 371—ATTIRE. 372—INVENTS. 373—SASSARI. 374—DIONIST. 375—ATTIRE. 376—INVENTS. 377—SASSARI. 378—DIONIST. 379—ATTIRE. 380—INVENTS. 381—SASSARI. 382—DIONIST. 383—ATTIRE. 384—INVENTS. 385—SASSARI. 386—DIONIST. 387—ATTIRE. 388—INVENTS. 389—SASSARI. 390—DIONIST. 391—ATTIRE. 392—INVENTS. 393—SASSARI. 394—DIONIST. 395—ATTIRE. 396—INVENTS. 397—SASSARI. 398—DIONIST. 399—ATTIRE. 400—INVENTS. 401—SASSARI. 402—DIONIST. 403—ATTIRE. 404—INVENTS. 405—SASSARI. 406—DIONIST. 407—ATTIRE. 408—INVENTS. 409—SASSARI. 410—DIONIST. 411—ATTIRE. 412—INVENTS. 413—SASSARI. 414—DIONIST. 415—ATTIRE. 416—INVENTS. 417—SASSARI. 418—DIONIST. 419—ATTIRE. 420—INVENTS. 421—SASSARI. 422—DIONIST. 423—ATTIRE. 424—INVENTS. 425—SASSARI. 426—DIONIST. 427—ATTIRE. 428—INVENTS. 429—SASSARI. 430—DIONIST. 431—ATTIRE. 432—INVENTS. 433—SASSARI. 434—DIONIST. 435—ATTIRE. 436—INVENTS. 437—SASSARI. 438—DIONIST. 439—ATTIRE. 440—INVENTS. 441—SASSARI. 442—DIONIST. 443—ATTIRE. 444—INVENTS. 445—SASSARI. 446—DIONIST. 447—ATTIRE. 448—INVENTS. 449—SASSARI. 450—DIONIST. 451—ATTIRE. 452—INVENTS. 453—SASSARI. 454—DIONIST. 455—ATTIRE. 456—INVENTS. 457—SASSARI. 458—DIONIST. 459—ATTIRE. 460—INVENTS. 461—SASSARI. 462—DIONIST. 463—ATTIRE. 464—INVENTS. 465—SASSARI. 466—DIONIST. 467—ATTIRE. 468—INVENTS. 469—SASSARI. 470—DIONIST. 471—ATTIRE. 472—INVENTS. 473—SASSARI. 474—DIONIST. 475—ATTIRE. 476—INVENTS. 477—SASSARI. 478—DIONIST. 479—ATTIRE. 480—INVENTS. 481—SASSARI. 482—DIONIST. 483—ATTIRE. 484—INVENTS. 485—SASSARI. 486—DIONIST. 487—ATTIRE. 488—INVENTS. 489—SASSARI. 490—DIONIST. 491—ATTIRE. 492—INVENTS. 493—SASSARI. 494—DIONIST. 495—ATTIRE. 496—INVENTS. 497—SASSARI. 498—DIONIST. 499—ATTIRE. 500—INVENTS. 501—SASSARI. 502—DIONIST. 50



THE FENCE CORNER.

A Clear Case.
Lawyer—You want damages from the railroad company for killing your cow, eh? How did the fatality occur?
Farmer—W'y 'twuz like this: the dinged railroad company put up their dinged freight rates on cabbages; wilst I wuz waitin' fer th' dinged freight rates to go down, th' dinged cow broke inter th' dinged lot an' et th' dinged cabbages, en it killed 'er. You'd best put in the vally of them cabbages, too; I forgot them.



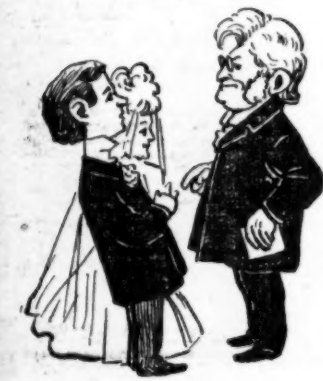
The Sort of Love It Was.
"Do you love me?" she asked fondly.
"Dearly," replied he.
"Would you die for me?"
"No, my precious one. Mine is an undying love."
She had to make the best of this.—
Town Topics.

Evidently Mistaken.
No! cried the man on the front seat of the tandem. "Don't talk to me of Binks. I know him too well. The man hasn't an idea that isn't borrowed."
"Oh, yes," said the man on the rear seat. "In several things he is strikingly original."
"In not one! You can't name a thing!"
"Well, he thinks he is well liked."—
Chicago Tribune.

Avoided Reiteration.
It was on the 5 o'clock accommodation on the Boston and Maine. He was a green brakeman—greener than grass at this time of year—and it was his first run over the road. At Somerville he woke old Spettegrew out of his every afternoon nap by announcing "Chelsea!" and a little later, when they stopped at East Everett, he paralyzed old lady Pettijohn by proclaiming "Prides Crossing!" But the climax was reached when the train arrived in Lynn.

Barber Kinkley—Mister Hides, will yo' hab de kindness to lower yo' feet fo' just one moment? De gemman jus' out ob de cheer wishes to use de mirror."—
Up-to-Date.

Hickory Nuts and Potatoes.
One of the reasons why Kansas did not urge the free coinage of potatoes is doubtless that her people have been exchanging them for hickory nuts with the men of Utah, Mo., where the nuts have been so plentiful that they have been easily gathered by the wagon load.—
New York Sun.



"A Tie Game."



"A V" (only).

A Fellow Feeling.
Harry—She has jilted me and I know I shall die. The disappointment will kill me!
Aunt Hannah—I know how disappointment affects one, Harry. But you will get over it. I felt just as you do now when I set that yellow hen on 13 eggs and just got one poor chick out of the lot.—
Boston Herald.

Foot Ball Terms.



"A Left Tackle."

Kicked Him of Course.
Office Boy—Please, sir, I've a complaint to make. The bookkeeper kicked me, sir. I don't want no bookkeeper to kick me.
Boss—Of course he kicked you. You don't expect me to attend to everything, do you? I can't look after every little detail in the business myself.—
New York Tribune.

Two of a Kind.



Benedict—I tell you I have the boss wife, old man.
Henpeck—My wife's a boss wife, too.—
Truth.

THE DAIRY.

Skimmings.
It has been demonstrated that Winter butter is more apt to lose brine than Summer.

The Hinsdale, Mass., creamery clerk's report for the year ending Oct. 5, shows the amount of butter made to be 104,063 pounds, the gross sales \$24,584.94; amount paid patrons \$18,956.91. The present number of patrons is 60, and has averaged 64 throughout the year, representing different towns.

In purchasing a new cow, regard not only her breed and lactical characteristics, but the way she has been "brought up." The general appearance of the farm or dairy alone from which she was taken will often give you a pretty clear insight into the latter. Select your cows with care. Don't let a love for breed override your better judgment as to grave faults they may possess.

There is a moral side to dairying. Regular habits are required. Men who keep cows must be home at milking time; home is a good place. Very few good dairymen are whisky drinkers. Dairying communities, as a rule, furnish but little business for lawyers. Dairying is educating and elevating, if intelligently followed. This is especially true of home dairying.—F. W. MOSLEY.

The water content of butter is decreased by working more than once and by lengthening the interval between salting and last working. Increasing the number of workings and the time between salting and last working diminishes the liability to lose brine on standing. The tendency of later years has been to work the butter more than once and to allow a longer time than previously between salting and last working.

The proportion of the butter exhibited which was made from pasteurized cream has been steadily increasing during late years. In 1894-95 it amounted to 44 per cent. of the butter exhibited, viz, 28 per cent. of the Summer butter and 62 per cent. of the Winter butter. This butter scored, on the average, 0.9 and 1.1 points higher for Summer and Winter butter, respectively, than that made from cream unpasteurized (on a total score of 15 points), and contained less water in every case.

"DISCONNECTED NOTES."

Some Golden Grains from a Practical Butter Maker's Experience.

Harvey Johnson, of Logan, Iowa, in an address to the Nebraska Dairy Association, gives the following as "disconnected notes upon what we have learned from experience and what we are using in our business":

From the beginning we have had a plan, and are constantly working by it. Everything is done at a certain time and on time.

We never forget to look after the comfort of every cow and are careful that every storm finds her in her stall. We prefer the swinging stanchion. Oats and corn ground together, with a little oil-meal added, some bright cut fodder and clover hay, make a model feed for the dairy.

Fodder cut soon after the corn is in roasting ears is generally relished by the cow, but the results are not as satisfactory as when it is cut later. We have found that a careless feeder can use a great deal of feed from which we get no returns.

We allow no tobacco used in the barn nor creamery.

The cows are milked at the same hour each day, in the same order and by the same person.

A cow that wants more than 30 or 60 days' rest we do not want.

The Babcock test shows that our herd yields from 4.7 to 6.3 per cent. of butter fat, and the gravity system cream test shows from 18 to 25 per cent. of cream.

Separator milk, if fed while it retains its natural warmth, has a feeding value of four cents per gallon.

We usually get two and one-half pounds of butter from each gallon of cream.

We have found that what is known as the "Boyd system" of using artificially-soured milk as a starter for the cream makes a fine article of butter.

We have found that there is a great difference in dairy salt.

We study the demands of the market and the tastes of our customers.

We allow nothing whatever kept in the creamery except the cream and butter and the machinery for handling them.

We know of no business where the careful attention to detail counts for as much as in the dairy business.

Running the churn just one minute too long will often do for butter what the most expert butter-maker cannot undo.

When our butter is finished it does not usually contain more than 12 per cent. of water.

We aim to have the butter entirely free from buttermilk.

If we fail on a batch of butter our regular customers never see it; it is put in a tub and sent where it is unknown.

We have found dairying a paying business even in these dull times of depression.

We know of nothing upon the farm that will give as steady an income as the making and selling of good butter.

We would never employ a young fellow who has a girl without we were prepared to take a double dose of milking on Sunday nights.

Lastly, we have found that, unless a man likes to stay at home, and unless he is on friendly terms with steady work, we would hardly advise him to engage in the dairy business.

Sweet and Ripened Cream.
The Canadian Experiment Station has made 17 trials of cream churned when sweet, and when ripened 12 and 20 hours. These are the results:

"The ripening of the cream was commenced at a temperature of 80° F. As soon as the cream was at the desired condition of ripeness (i. e., thick and slightly sour) it was sealed to the churning temperature—57° F. One-half of it was churned at once, and the remaining half was left for eight hours more before it was churned. Four additional tests were made with cream ripened in 12 hours, and this being done in one of the warm months of Summer a temperature of 76° proved to be sufficiently high. The sweet cream was kept in ice-water to the time of churning."

"From these tests it appears that—
"1. A slightly greater yield of butter (0.94 of a pound of butter per 100 pounds of butter fat in the cream) was obtained from cream which was ripened for 20 hours than from cream ripened for 12 hours.

"2. The butter from the cream which was ripened for 20 hours was slightly richer in flavor, but was of no higher commercial value than that from the cream ripened 12 hours.

"3. The butter from the cream which was churned sweet was slightly less in quantity (1.1 pounds and 2.04 pounds of butter, respectively, per 100 pounds of butter fat in the cream) than the butter from lots of cream ripened 12 hours and 20 hours, respectively.

"4. The butter from the cream which was churned sweet was two points lower in flavor than that from the ripened cream."

The Butter-Makers.
Work gives quality to butter, from the feeding of the cows to the preparation for market. While sound feeding and pure breeds are necessary adjuncts to success, yet the "gilt edge" is the result of experience, care and cleanliness.

The small stone crocks used by many for holding butter should always be well washed and freshened before being refilled. The best way to freshen them is, after washing, to fill them with boiling ammonia or borax water, allowing a teaspoonful of ammonia to a quart of water. Let the water remain all day, and then fill the crock with sweet milk and let it stand over night.

Professor Robertson has been experimenting for a number of years to find a well-balanced dairy ration that can be cheaply produced on Southern farms. He thinks corn, English horse beans and sunflowers fill the bill, either put in silo or cured as hay. And the same mixture is equally successful in the North.

Causes of Tainted Milk.

Dr. Gerber, the Swiss scientist, classifies the causes of tainted milk as follows:

1. Poor fodder.
2. Poor, dirty water, used not only for watering cows, but also for washing cans.
3. Foul air in cow stables.
4. Uncleanliness in milking.
5. Keeping the milk to long in too warm and poorly ventilated places.
6. Neglecting to cool the milk quickly after milking.
7. Lack of cleanliness in the care of milk.
8. Poor transportation facilities.
9. Sick cows.
10. The cows being in heat.

Adulterated Milk.

In New York the following classes of milk are deemed adulterated: 1. Milk containing more than 88 per cent. of water or fluids. 2. That containing less than 12 per cent. of milk solids. 3. That containing less than 3 per cent. of fat. 4. That drawn from cows within 15 days before and five days after parturition. 5. Milk drawn from animals fed on distillery waste or other unhealthy food. 6. Milk drawn from cows kept in a crowded or unhealthy condition. 7. Milk from which any part of the cream has been removed. 8. Milk which has been diluted with water or any other fluid, or into which any foreign substance has been introduced. All sale of milk coming within any of the above sub-divisions is prohibited.

Cooling of Butter.

Experiments conducted by the late Prof. Fjord in 1886 showed the importance of prolonged cooling of butter in the creamery and during transportation. Butter from the same churning was divided into two parts, one of which was kept in a refrigerator and the other left in the creamery at ordinary temperature. In 252 trials with butter kept for different lengths of time and under varying conditions, the cooled butter was pronounced better in 214 cases, equally good in 28 cases, and inferior in 10 cases.

Botanists have divided all plants into 24 classes and 121 orders; and they have discovered 3,000 genera, 50,000 species, and varieties of species without number. With regard to the roots, plants are bulbous as in onions and tulips; tuberous, as in potatoes; and fibrous, as in grass.

\$100 Reward \$100.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers, that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials. Address, F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists, 75c.

When writing mention this paper.

THE ORCHARD.

Cullings.
At Forest Grove, Ore., A. Anderson found on one of his grape vines a bunch of mixed fruit, some of the grapes being of the White Sweet Waters variety and some of a red kind. All were of good flavor.

Fresno County, Cal., could fill a train 30 miles long with her orchard and vineyard products. The Pajaro valley could show up with a 20-mile fruit train—a big showing for a small valley; and this section could fill a train 60 miles long with sugar beets.

Forty-one bushels of apples were gathered this year from a century-old tree, which is known to have borne fruit for 86 years, in the orchard of R. H. Williams, of West Corinth, Vt. The circumference of the trunk near the ground is 12 feet 4 inches.

The Sequachee (Tenn.) Company is very sanguine as to the grapes it is raising. It has 15 acres in vines, seven acres of which bore grapes this year for the first time. The yield was about one ton to the acre of fine Niagaras, some bunches of which weigh 18 ounces.

CULTIVATION OF WILLOWS.

A Crop that Might be Made Profitable to Farmers.

EDITOR AMERICAN FARMER: Continual inquiry is made regarding basket willows, and considering the favorable market price they bring, it is remarkable that so few farmers undertake the cultivation of the same.

Although this useful plant prospers well in this country, large quantities are imported every year from Europe. Not every farmer may be in position to cultivate willows on a large scale, but most every farmer has a spare piece of land where he can plant some without expending much labor. Although the principle of varied cultivation and extras, such as honey-bees, etc., has proved many failures, yet the planting of properly selected side cultivations always insures success, as not every planting will fail in the same year. Willow-raising is certainly the most profitable and practical side cultivation, as it is very simple in comparison to the attention required by many other plants on which the profits are certainly much smaller.

Low land is best suited, but high land will also do. Land with too much water or standing pools will not answer. The cultivation is similar to that of corn. It is best to plow in Fall and again in Spring, and keep all weeds out. Early in April the plants or cuttings are stuck into holes, made with an iron point, 12 inches apart and in rows of three feet apart, so that grass can be kept down with cultivator and hoe.

These cuttings are made from two to three-years-old willows and are about one foot long. They are inserted, leaving only two or three eyes or one or two inches above the ground. In the first year only a few switches will grow, which will increase in number. Every year, in March, the willows are cut close to the stem. They are tied up in bundles 10 inches in diameter and placed in two or three inches of water, remaining there until the latter part of April, or until small leaves and sprouts have appeared. This shows that the sap has risen, which makes the peel easily removable. Now the willows are peeled by pulling them through a springy wooden fork shaped like a clothes-pin, but larger, with blunt edges inside, which, without injuring the willow, presses the bark and loosens the same in strands, which are easily removed. Willows are dried in the open air and put in bundles of 50 pounds for the market.

About 15,000 cuttings are necessary to plant an acre. The willow reaches its greatest production in the third year, and with proper care and good fertilizing it will continue to yield good results for many years. Dry, peeled willows are worth five cents a pound delivered in Milwaukee.

The following illustration may serve to show the profit obtained from the production of one acre of willows:

One acre only moderately well-cared for, with fertilizer, will yield at least four tons of green willows. This is the smallest amount, as many acres yield seven tons.

Of these four tons, two-thirds may be deducted for bark and moisture, leaving about—
2,666 pounds dry willow at 5 cents a pound = \$133.30
Wages would amount to for cutting of four tons at \$5.00 = \$20.00
Peeling of 2,666 pounds at 12 cents a pound for large and 2 cents for small willows = 50.00—70.00

This leaves a profit per acre of \$63.30 which is very favorable, compared with that of wheat, rye, barley and oats, and it would be advisable for every farmer to undertake at least the cultivation of a half or one acre.

In former years the American farmer was able to obtain a higher price for his willows, owing to the fact that the manufacturer then received considerably higher prices for his goods.

On account of the constantly growing competition among manufacturers, they were obliged to look around for cheaper material. Willows were imported from Europe in large quantities, which discouraged some farmers and induced them to give up the cultivation of willows altogether.

The above plainly shows that the willows can be delivered for five cents a pound. This price is equal to imported willows, including freight and duty of the latter, and gives the American farmer a chance to compete with European products.

Plants or cuttings of best quality and further information may be obtained of Messrs. A. MEINEKE & SON, Milwaukee, Wis.



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APPLE SCAB

Prevented by the Use of the Bordeaux Mixture.

Spraying experiments that have been conducted for two years by the Missouri Station indicate that apple scab can be prevented by the use of Bordeaux mixture. Four applications were found more efficacious than three. In orchards sprayed in 1894 there was less scab than in the unsprayed ones. Bitter rot, while more destructive than usual, was less prevalent on trees sprayed with a six-pound solution of Bordeaux mixture. Attacks of codling moth were not prevented by the use of arsenites, the injury being due, the author thinks, to a second brood of the moth appearing after the use of arsenites had been discontinued. Bordeaux mixture was efficient in causing less loss from plum rot where the trees were sprayed weekly throughout the ripening period. At this time ammoniacal copper carbonate solution is recommended, as it does not leave a sediment that injures the appearance of the fruit. Paris green was used with success for repressing the curculio.

Taking Out Stumps.

As dynamite is the most powerful explosive and explodes so quickly as to tear things to pieces far more effectively than black powder, it is desirable to use it on this account, as well as for the reason that it will exert its force when placed loosely under the body to be torn up. To get out large stumps proceed in this way: With an inch and a quarter iron bar punch a hole in the ground directly under the middle of the stump, gently push the cartridge, made of half a stick of dynamite with the cap and fuse attached, to the bottom of the hole, then pour water in the hole to settle the earth on the cartridge, and light the fuse. Or some dry, running sand may be run into the hole. The explosion will tear a stump three feet in diameter into shreds, and these are easily gathered.

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selling the Queen Butter Maker that makes and gathers butter in 3 to 5 minutes; everybody wants a quick churn. Sells at sight; guaranteed, easily cleaned, simple, practical, great change for grease. Short time winner. So walk our back peddling. To show the machine to sell it. The agent that makes butter in 3 min. before for \$100.00. Is sure to sell 6 or 8 at once. Agents easily make from \$10 to \$50 a day. The Queen Butter Maker On Sale at \$10.00 delivered.

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